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No. 12

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

January 19, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

AMERICA'S LUMBER CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. HERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, over the last 2 years, the price of lumber rose at an astronomical rate. This followed prolonged shutdowns of lumber mills and production plants, despite the maintained demand for lumber for construction projects that continued as an essential activity during the pandemic. The resulting supply and demand inversion caused a nationwide lumber shortage.

Our economy struggles when businesses feel uncertainty in the market, which is why it is the government's job, in times of crisis like the COVID pandemic, to ensure stability.

In May of last year, I sent a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai urging action to prevent further disruption in the price of lumber. At the time I sent the letter, lumber prices had skyrocketed more than 300 percent over the previous year. With the support of nearly 100 bipartisan Members of Congress, Congressman BRIAN HIGGINS and I asked Ambassador Tai to resolve the crisis by resuming trade negotiations with Canada to reduce the price of softwood lumber.

While lumber prices temporarily declined following that letter, it took months for a meaningful portion of those decreases to reach the construction industry and its customers. Prices began rising again in September and have continued to increase in the months since, once again putting strain on the hardworking Americans who build our homes and communities.

In December, I once again joined Congressman HIGGINS and nearly 100 bipartisan Members of Congress to send a second letter to the Biden administration, this time to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, voicing concerns over the Department of Commerce's decision to increase antidumping and countervailing duties on softwood lumber products from Canada. We are concerned that this will further exacerbate the lumber crisis.

The housing sector remains an integral piece of the U.S. economy. As we continue to recover from the COVID pandemic, sharp increases in the price of lumber will further harm our recovery and the costs faced by hardworking Americans.

It is our understanding that the U.S. and Canada discussed this very issue last year and expressed mutual interest in resolving the problem, but it is un-

clear if any action has yet been taken by either country.

We want to see stability and normalcy restored to the housing market. It is imperative that we do so. We want to see definitive action from the Biden administration to solve this problem.

Madam Speaker, we in Congress stand ready to help in any way we can.

ABOLISH FILIBUSTER OR LET DEMOCRACY DIE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, as we come off the historic Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday, it is incumbent upon all of us not just to reflect on his legacy but to really honor it.

Honoring his legacy means really using our political strength, much of which was given to us by him and his struggle, to deliver the very voting rights protections he and countless other civil rights leaders, including our very own John Lewis, bled to secure.

We simply cannot accept empty promises anymore, Madam Speaker, in pursuit of his dream for a more equal and just America, not from Senators who have the power to live fully in those ideals today and not from Members of this very Chamber.

How can anyone, Madam Speaker, especially any Member of the Senate, celebrate this day of service, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, without standing for democracy and the rights of others?

How can they, in good faith, deliver empty words or celebrate his legacy in the shadow of this current attack on access to the ballot box when they themselves have the power to stop it?

But let me step back just a minute and put this in perspective, Madam Speaker. Just last year, Republicans introduced 440 voter suppression bills

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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in 49 States. Nineteen States have already passed voting restrictions in 2021, with even more coming this year.

These are acts of voter suppression occurring in nearly every State of the Union, targeting Black and Brown communities, working-class and poor communities, telling them that their votes and voices shouldn't be heard, violating the sacred concept of one person, one vote.

Make no mistake, Madam Speaker: The restrictive voting laws that have passed and continue to be passed and pushed have directly targeted Black and Brown poor and working-class communities, directly targeting communities of color to make it harder for them to access the ballot box and to participate in our democracy.

As we continue to honor Dr. King and his legacy today, the Senate has a choice: Abolish the filibuster or let democracy die.

Madam Speaker, the filibuster is an arcane piece of Senate procedure that came to be by accident. It is a direct legacy to segregation and continues to hold back progress on civil rights to this very day.

Its most famous use was against the Civil Rights Act of 1964, where its opponents filibustered for nearly 60 days. But it wasn't the first time, and it won't be the last.

White southerners also invoked the filibuster to block a voting rights bill in 1891, with many of the same Senators filibustering again in the 1930s to block antilynching laws.

Imagine that. The filibuster was used to block antilynching laws.

We have a choice, Madam Speaker, between having a democracy or allowing racist systems to continue. It is simple. The filibuster is a monument to white supremacy, and we have to tear it down.

I refuse to hear any cheap excuse about why protecting the very founding principle of this Nation isn't possible because of it, not when it has been changed 161 times.

The filibuster, in the last five decades, has been changed 161 times to pass trade deals, tax cuts for the rich, Supreme Court Justices, and just recently for the debt ceiling.

But that is not what we remember the filibuster for. We remember the filibuster for its racist roots, deeply embedded in Jim Crow, used to stop antilynching legislation.

Madam Speaker, history will not look fondly on those who stand in the way of progress.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ELLEN WELCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Ellen Welch, a crime scene specialist in Morgan County and founder of the Hero Tree.

Ellen has exhibited an unwavering commitment to Morgan County's law enforcement as she works as a crime scene specialist and investigator.

Each year, during the holiday season, Ellen takes on the role of lifting up the community's fallen law enforcement officers and K9s. 2021 has marked the third year that Ellen has spearheaded this service to the community, and it continues to grow.

Every year, Ellen, her mom, and her niece paint each ornament and write the name, death date, and agency of each fallen officer. Then they place the ornaments on a tree that stands in the Morgan County squad room until January.

Unfortunately, this year was especially hard on law enforcement. Ellen had to get a much larger tree as violence against police officers spiked.

Ellen has exhibited a selfless commitment to our police officers, and for that, we are very grateful. I thank Ellen for what she does and encourage her to keep it up.

RECOGNIZING AVA DORMINEY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary student in my district, Ava Dorminey, for her work building the Students Helping Students Succeed mentorship program.

Now a senior at Savannah Arts Academy, Ava founded the SHSS mentorship program in her junior year to help struggling students.

The COVID-19 pandemic and related school closures, which proved difficult for many students, are what prompted Ava to take action. Her desire to help students' mental health and academic success culminated in the creation of the Students Helping Students Succeed mentorship program. Ava wanted to assist her fellow students while also working to instill essential qualities like confidence, teamwork, and leadership in our youth.

Her work has been instrumental in helping students through these trying times. I am extremely proud to represent a district where young people's work, like Ava's, is on display for the whole Nation to see.

She inspires me and gives me even more confidence in our future, and I want to thank her for the work she is doing in our community.

I hope Ava's story and work inspire other young people to find an avenue that can help their communities be successful as well.

CONGRATULATING RINCON, GEORGIA

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rincon, Georgia, for being recognized as one of 24/7 Wall Street's best cities to live in, in the South.

Rincon is a gem of a town in the First District that is well deserving of this recognition. Its population growth, high median household income, and low unemployment rate are just some of the features that caught the attention of 24/7 Wall Street, an independent news organization that

ranks cities based on affordability, quality of life, economy, and community.

Incorporated as a city in 1927, Rincon has a rich history as a rail town in the 1800s. When World War II came to America, Rincon, like the rest of the First District, answered the call to arms. Due to its proximity to Savannah, Rincon citizens were instrumental in the construction of U.S. Liberty ships.

Since then, the city has continued to grow and flourish into what it is today. I know the citizens of Rincon, Georgia, and myself are proud of this recognition.

As someone whose grandparents lived in Rincon, I was in Rincon most Sundays every week as a young man. I can tell you how proud I am of the city of Rincon and Effingham County and the tremendous growth they have seen while still maintaining a great quality of life.

ENDING FILIBUSTER TO PASS VOTING RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to stand here this morning with a very solemn heart, overwhelmed, one would say, with a sense of grief. And in that grief, there is joy.

The grief, of course, is to feel the personal pain of the lack of unity around the very core of democracy, and that is the right to vote.

As has been evidenced by Members over and over again, as I listened to Senators last night, everyone acceded to the point that voting is the core of democracy. It means that the individual in pain, in frustration, in affirmation, in the understanding of policies, gets to select a person of their choosing. It is not about those who are elected or candidates or the elections. It is about the voters having that right.

□ 1015

Right now, today, in the hands of the other body is the crux of democracy. I am, frankly, undone by the usage of an insignificant procedural rule that has been used over the decades and centuries to crush democracy.

The filibuster is insignificant. It is an order. It is not a statute; it is not the Constitution; it is not the 15th Amendment or the 14th Amendment; it is not the 13th Amendment, which freed slaves. It is also the recognition that voting rights is for all persons irrespective of their race, color, creed, or religion, and their party affiliation.

Why is the other body, under the leadership of Minority Leader McCONNELL, not coming to the table of unity? I extend an olive branch.

The filibuster has been changed already over 161 times. Do we recognize that between 1866 and 1890 many landmark pieces of civil rights legislation

that were essential to protecting the constitutional rights of Americans of color—this was during Reconstruction—they were, if you will, voted along party lines? But from 1917 to 1994, civil rights were crushed by the use of the filibuster.

And so I rise today to ask for the better angels of the other body, two Members who happen to be Democratic Senators, and others who are in total lockstep in the other party.

But listen to William E. Mason saying: “But every schoolboy in the United States knows that the Senate is practically the only parliamentary body in the world where the majority cannot transact the public business, and where the minority instead of the majority transacts the business of the country.” Senator William E. Mason, April 21, 1897, a Republican.

I ask for mercy. As someone who worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, who had the privilege of being here for the reauthorization in the mid-2000s, who wrote the Coretta Scott bill legislation that was added that said no mid-term redistricting, and as well helped rename the bill at that time to many icons of diversity.

I want to conclude my remarks by referring to Martin Luther King’s mountaintop speech, to read as much of it as I can. He speaks at the beginning by saying if he had sneezed when he was knifed by a demented woman in the 1950s, he says, I wouldn’t have been around in 1962 when Negroes in Albany, Georgia, decided to straighten their backs up. And whenever men and women straighten their backs up, they are going somewhere, because a man can’t ride your back unless it is bent.

If I had sneezed, I wouldn’t have been here in 1963 when the Black people of Birmingham, Alabama, aroused the conscience of this Nation and brought into being the civil rights bill.

If I had sneezed, I wouldn’t have had a chance later that year, in August, to try and tell America about a dream that I had had.

If I had sneezed, I wouldn’t have been in Selma, Alabama, or Memphis.

And then they were telling me, now, it doesn’t matter, now. It really doesn’t matter what happens. I left Atlanta this morning, and as we got started the pilot said we had to stop for a moment because Dr. Martin Luther King is on the plane, we have to check and see if there were bombs.

And then I got into Memphis. And some began to say the threats or talk about the threats that were out. What would happen to me from some of our sick brothers, who did not look like me?

Well, I don’t know what will happen now. We’ve got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn’t matter with me now because I’ve been to the mountaintop.

And I don’t mind.

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I

am not concerned about that now. I just want to do God’s will. And He has allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over, and I’ve seen the promised land.

That is today, today, January 19, 2022.

I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the promised land.

And so I’m happy tonight.

I’m not worried about anything.

I’m not fearing any man.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

Those who say they honor him, do not disgrace him. Vote for the Voting Rights Act.

CELEBRATING MARY LOU HAND’S 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true American patriot, a true American hero. Ms. Mary Lou Hand just turned 100 years old on January 15, 2022. She is from Wall, Texas.

Mary Lou served this country as a nurse in the Army in World War II. After first being stationed in Maryland and Mississippi, she was sent to England, where she provided critical care for the wounded; and, more importantly, she raised soldiers’ spirits by spreading laughter.

It was during her service in England that she met her husband, Bob. The two had six children together and lived in three countries and subsequently seven States.

Ms. Mary Lou Hand has 6 children, 13 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren. She has cultivated a life of love and family, filled with gratitude.

Throughout her century of life, she has dedicated her time to helping others. Her selfless dedication has played out through her commitment to her family as well as her impressive career serving our country and caring for others.

Mary Lou, thank you for your service and happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF JOHN “J.B.” BYERS, SR.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to tell you about another patriot. You know, we have patriots, and we have leaders, servant leaders throughout our entire country. This is a special one that I would like to talk about in the community of Staten Island, Mr. John “J.B.” Byers, Sr.

A New Jersey native, Mr. Byers began his remarkable 40-year career delivering letters for the U.S. Postal Service at the USPS Mariners Harbor Post Office and subsequently served 18 years at the Port Richmond office.

During his four decades of exemplary service, John has become a fixture of the community. He has become beloved by those he happily served for so many years on his daily route.

The best measure of John’s success was not how efficient he was at his job, but it was the undeniable impact he had on his neighbors in the communities that he served so well. He went above and beyond in his duties, taking time to engage in the community, the lives and the livelihoods of the people he served every single day.

His influence is evident by the meaningful and positive impact he made on those who knew him best, his neighbors, his colleagues, and his friends. Story after story from coworkers and community members alike show J.B.’s generosity, kindness, and work ethic. So much so that on John’s last day at the U.S. Postal Service, those on his route threw him a surprise party to demonstrate how much the service that he did for them meant to them and their lives.

John dedicated his life to his community through his career, and he became a trusted friend and familiar face to all. But even with his tenured and successful career, I know the greatest joy for him today stems from the beautiful family he and his wife, Kathleen, have raised. As he enters retirement, John and Kathleen are celebrating the birth of their first grandchild, Madison Patricia Byers, who was born on December 23, 2021.

More than a mailman, J.B. has brought great joy and integrity to countless families and neighborhoods, and we thank him for his service to his community.

HONORING MRS. PAM BURKE

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of Mrs. Pam Burke of San Angelo, Texas.

Mrs. Burke runs the Wesley Soup Kitchen, a wonderful ministry that has been providing meals, along with love and care, to all those in need since 1948.

Mrs. Burke has been at the Wesley Soup Kitchen for the past 12 years, preparing over 200 meals a day. In addition to feeding the homeless and those less fortunate, this ministry provides holiday meals and has been a consistent combatant of malnutrition and hunger throughout the community.

Mrs. Burke is a wonderful example of God’s calling in John, chapter 21 to feed His sheep. For no monetary gain of her own, Mrs. Burke dedicates her time and her energy to opening her arms and caring for the community.

I know I am not alone in saying that I am grateful for the mission of the Wesley Soup Kitchen and am honored to know that wonderfully impassioned individuals like Mrs. Pam Burke are working throughout each of our communities.

PROTECT THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, this great Nation was founded on a fundamental promise, a promise that, as

Americans, we shall all have a say in the decisions that affect our lives.

But as you know, this Nation has not always lived up to that promise. Indeed, the story of American democracy is a story of ordinary Americans daring to make extraordinary sacrifices in order for the promise to become a reality for all Americans, regardless of their race, gender, age, sexual orientation, or class.

Madam Speaker, today is a day of great significance and great consequence. We, in the House, passed the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Act, as well as the Freedom to Vote Act. Now, today, the Senate will take up and debate both bills and vote on the future of our democracy.

What is at stake is clear. The current state of voting rights is very clear. Old battles have become new again, as State legislatures across this Nation have erected deliberate barriers to the ballot box in an all-out assault on the right to vote.

Though we no longer have a poll tax, nor do we have to count how many jelly beans are in a jar, we do know that the modern-day restrictions are no less pernicious: Long lines, closed polling stations, purged voter rolls, bans on early voting, and the list goes on and on. In Georgia it is now a crime to hand out food and water to a voter in line. And so I ask you, What are we afraid of?

Madam Speaker, the significance of this moment is not lost on me for, you see, representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District, voting rights are very personal. People in my district fought, marched, prayed, and, yes, some died for the equal right of all Americans to vote.

I know that this body reveres our late, great Congressman John Lewis. It was John who said that the struggle for voting rights is not a struggle for one day or one year, it is a struggle for a lifetime.

So we have to fight—every generation does—to protect the progress of the past and to advance it. And that is exactly what the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act does.

I ask our Senators; how will they be remembered? Years from now, when our children and grandchildren look back on this moment and ask, What did you do to fight for voting rights? How will you be remembered?

Now, we are not asking our Senators to march. We are not asking them to sacrifice. We are not asking them to bleed on a bridge.

We are asking them to do their jobs. To do their jobs.

We are asking them to have the courage of their convictions, to use their position of great power to save our democracy in this critical moment.

Madam Speaker, to my colleagues, voting rights advocates, and stakeholders, I say, no matter what the outcome is today, we cannot be deterred. John Lewis and those brave foot soldiers did not give up. Think of where

our country would be if John and Hosea Williams and those that were bludgeoned on that bridge hadn't picked themselves up 2 days later and marched again.

Voting rights is a struggle of a lifetime, and we have to be in that fight. We cannot be tired. We can be frustrated. We can be downright mad. But we cannot give up. We have so many more miles to go before we declare victory. And victory we must have because our democracy depends on it.

Our colleague, JIM CLYBURN, this past weekend invoked the Bible. He said, it is darkest before the dawn. Indeed, by not taking this moment to protect the right to vote, we are allowing extremists to strip away the power of the people.

We all celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday on Monday. Dr. King said that "... the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." But it only bends if we Americans decide to challenge it, decide to make sure that this Constitution lives up to its ideals. It is time for the Senate to do their part.

In remembrance of the sacrifices of others, the Senate must reform its rules. We all have a role to play. And I say to the activists and to the Senators, the time to act is always now.

King said it is always time to do what is right. We must get into some good trouble. We must keep our eyes on the prize, and the prize is our democracy and restoring the right to vote.

FEDERAL TAKEOVER OF ELECTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, Washington Democrats have become desperate to shield their slim majorities in the House and Senate; so desperate, in fact, that they are willing to silence millions of Americans by orchestrating a Federal takeover of elections.

Look no further than H.R. 1 and H.R. 4. These pieces of legislation are the ones Americans should be concerned about.

□ 1030

Madam Speaker, all Washington Democrats have done is operate off their own manufactured hysteria.

Thanks to ranking member RODNEY DAVIS of the Committee on House Administration, we have the facts on why the Democrats' narrative is wrong.

2020 saw the highest voter turnout in 120 years, and according to Pew, 94 percent said it is easy to vote. There is clearly no widespread "voter suppression" issue in this country.

Georgia's new "voter suppression law" has more days of early in-person voting than New York.

Texas' "voter suppression law" ends pandemic exceptions like universal

drive-thru voting and 24-hour voting. Neither existed in Texas before 2020. Neither widely exists even in blue States.

When it comes to abolishing the filibuster, there are even more facts.

The filibuster prevents Federal laws swinging wildly with every election.

If the filibuster is taken away, millions of citizens and entire States would be silenced.

Senator SCHUMER's push is not a response to the 2020 election or new State laws.

As early as 2019 and August 2020, Senator SCHUMER was already discussing abolishing the filibuster, but only if he won control.

If the filibuster is wiped clean off the map, imagine what will be done next: Packing the Supreme Court; ramming through the Green New Deal; defunding the police, and every other misguided item that Washington Democrats have in their political playbook.

The consequences would be disastrous for America.

Madam Speaker, Americans do not want the one-party rule agenda of Washington Democrats, the anniversary of which is tomorrow.

They do not want to see their own country become even more bankrupted by the failed policies under this administration and razor-thin majority.

Republicans will continue to stand firm against this far-left agenda, and we will not sit on the sidelines.

It is vital that Americans know what these election bills will do and the consequences that will affect this great country if they are passed.

Thank you again to Ranking Member RODNEY DAVIS and his staff for their continued hard work and diligence on this issue.

CONGRESS IS SERVING OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Mrs. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about news that many people don't hear too much about coming out of Washington.

Too often they only hear one side of the story about divisiveness, gridlock, and a general unwillingness to put results over politics.

And don't get me wrong, it is a problem, but there are a whole lot of us in this body that are fighting every day to put an end to that and break the cycle in Washington, especially when it comes to our veterans.

In the past 2 months alone we have seen legislative breakthroughs that had the support of both Democrats and Republicans to help make sure that our country continues to serve our Nation's veterans.

I introduced bipartisan, bicameral legislation with Representatives ANTHONY GONZALEZ, TONY GONZALES, and COLIN ALLRED to invest in the Zero Suicide initiative and bring accountability into the VA.

Last week, this House passed legislation that will end a GI Bill disparity between the National Guard and Reserve members so that every single servicemember can access the benefits their sacrifices have earned.

And last month, President Biden signed the REMOTE Act into law to extend legislation to protect student benefits for veterans.

In southern Nevada alone, 200 veterans were facing cuts in their benefits, but with our votes in the House and Senate and President Biden's signature, those benefits were extended, and it was just that easy.

These are just a few examples of the bipartisan wins this Congress has been able to accomplish for veterans.

You see, a lot of legislation before us, especially bills that serve our veterans, are common sense. And I encourage Washington to not lose sight of those two words: Common sense.

HONORING SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES OF FORMER HOSTAGES OF THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call upon my fellow Members of Congress to support H.R. 1179, which will award the Congressional Gold Medal to the survivors of the Iran hostage crisis and to the families of the former hostages who are, sadly, no longer with us.

Over 40 years ago, in November of 1979, protests in the Iranian capital of Tehran led to crowds storming the United States Embassy and taking the staff inside as hostages. Fifty-two Americans, made up of both civilian and military personnel, were made prisoners in our own embassy and became victims of a terrorist attack upon international law.

For over a year, the hostages were denied their basic human dignity with their captors inflicting upon them increasing physical and psychological torture, to include simulated executions. Madam Speaker, they would take these hostages and go through the motions of being executed, often pulling the trigger of an empty gun to instill fear. It was wrong. These brave Americans held strong throughout their harrowing ordeal, never once losing faith in each other or that they may return home to their families again. Their courage and patriotism are an inspiration to all of us today, just as it was to our Nation 40 years ago.

Through diplomatic success, all 52 of the hostages were released in January of 1981, free to return home to their loved ones and their country, with this January 20 marking the 41st anniversary of their freedom. Despite that, many of them have not recovered from their trauma; to this day still haunted by what they had to endure. Alongside having to carry these burdens for over

40 years, these 52 heroes never received proper recognition from their government for the sacrifices they were forced to make in captivity. They are true American heroes, and it is time that Congress acknowledges them as such, which is why I call upon my colleagues to support H.R. 1179. The awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to the survivors and the families of the deceased will not only bring justice to these patriots, but also demonstrate this Nation's commitment to protect those whose human rights would be violated.

This bipartisan bill is a symbol of our Nation's ability to come together to honor our heroes; currently there are 145 cosponsors of this bill with a near even split between Democrats and Republicans.

Additionally, I would like to thank the tremendous efforts of Commission 52 for helping to spread awareness of this bill and gathering support for it. Their commitment to righting the wrongs of over 40 years ago is an inspiration to all.

HONORING WANDA YOUNG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Wanda Young, former singer of the renowned Motown Marvelettes and resident of the Inkster community in Michigan's 13th District Strong.

Ms. Young made her mark on Motown when she was asked to join the local singing group comprised of many of the Inkster High School students and alumni.

The group, now known as the Marvelettes, was quickly signed to the Tamla record label, later known as Motown Records.

They earned Motown one of its biggest hits with "Please, Mr. Postman."

Wanda Young sang lead on many of the recordings including the hit, "Don't Mess Around with Bill."

Ms. Young was an integral part of the Motown music scene and defining sound of the 1960s.

Ms. Young's example has inspired countless women and African American performers across our country.

Please join me in recognizing Wanda Young's contributions to our Nation and Michigan's 13th District Strong as we honor her legacy at home and across the globe.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE MARTINEZ

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michelle Martinez, Detroit resident and environmental justice warrior from Michigan's 13th District Strong as she departs as executive director from the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition.

For many years, Michelle has been a pillar of our community, advocating for clean air and water, and fighting against environmental racism that hurts our neighbors' quality of life.

Michelle has worked tirelessly, and I firsthand saw this myself, for various organizations over the last 15 years and has never wavered in seeking justice for the people who live with the effects of pollution.

I worked closely with Michelle on a number of initiatives when I served in the Michigan State legislature, and she has been an amazing person to watch grow as an advocate and leader in our State.

Michelle has always taken a bold approach to making transformative change for our communities that is meaningful and has never shied away from a challenge.

So please join me in recognizing Michelle Martinez' outstanding contributions to the communities of Michigan's 13th Congressional District as we wish her well on her next venture.

CONGRESS HAS A CLEAR MANDATE TO PROTECT, RESTORE, AND EXPAND VOTING RIGHTS IN AMERICA

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to make clear that we, as Representatives of the people, have a clear mandate to protect, restore, and expand voting rights in our Nation.

In my hometown of Detroit, election workers and community members were intimidated, shouted at, and disrespected for simply counting the votes of our community, a majority Black community, in November of 2020.

People banged on the windows, Madam Speaker, on the counting room just because they didn't want Black and Brown votes to be counted.

Our community was treated like we were unworthy of making our voices heard at the ballot box.

This should not be so complicated.

If our colleagues in the Senate fail to pass the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, their inaction will send a clear message to folks that voter suppression is okay. Voter suppression is not okay. It simply is not. Intimidating our election workers is not okay. Inaction is not an option, and we must deliver for the people.

AN ATTACK ON ELECTION INTEGRITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, House Democrats this past week passed a bill to nationalize elections. On a party-line vote Democrats, led by Speaker PELOSI, passed a bill nationalizing elections in an attempt to maintain power.

If ultimately enacted, this would consolidate power and control of all elections in the hands of Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic Party.

This bill is an attack on election integrity.

Their claims of voter suppression could not be further from the truth. The 2020 election had the highest turnout in 120 years.

A poll by Pew Research Center found that 94 percent of those asked said it was easy to vote. Thankfully there appears to be no path to get the votes needed to pass this danger to democracy bill in the Senate.

MARCH FOR LIFE IS A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, later this week, tens of thousands of Americans will travel to D.C. to take part in the 48th March for Life.

They will not be alone. Across the country, Americans will march to their State capitals in protest of the Roe v. Wade decision.

This march is a celebration of life. It is a march full of joy. It is inspiring, it is peaceful, and it is welcoming to all who wish to attend.

Today, it continues to be the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world. The goal is simple, to celebrate life with the hope that one day we live in a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected.

This year's theme is equality begins in the womb. As Jeanne Mancini, president of the March of Life said best, "As our country continues to advance along the path to a more just society, we cannot ignore the discrimination that is taking place against vulnerable unborn babies. . . ."

In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson penned three unalienable rights, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

As Members of Congress, it is our job to uphold those rights.

Since coming to Congress in 2009, I am proud to be a strong proponent of standing for life and giving a voice to the voiceless.

Many of my colleagues have introduced legislation to advance the pro-life cause. I am proud to cosponsor many of these bills, including the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, the Sanctity of Human Life Act, the Protecting the Dignity of the Unborn Children Act, and the Life at Conception Act.

In addition, I proudly stand on this House floor advocating for these policies and thwarting any attacks on the unborn.

Madam Speaker, our country is at a turning point. Right now we are experiencing the most pro-abortion administration in our history.

For the first time in over four decades, Democrats removed the Hyde amendment from legislation. This amendment is a bipartisan agreement which prevents direct taxpayer funding of abortion and is supported by 77 percent of Americans.

As pro-abortion advocates continue to try to stifle one of our unalienable rights, I know this House will continue to work tirelessly at the Federal level to put the health and safety of women and children first.

As long as the cloud of abortion looms over our country, we must con-

tinue to be the shining light for those who cannot defend themselves.

Now I am proud of the brave women, men, and children who will travel to Washington this week.

We must always be a voice for the voiceless. And we must continue to build a culture that values life and respects mothers and their children.

Ahead of this year's march, I stand here and redouble my commitment to protecting the most vulnerable among us, the unborn.

□ 1045

ADDRESSING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, the trauma, disruption, stress, and isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly accelerated the mental health crisis facing our young people. I have seen this reflected in my own community. My alma mater, Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville, Illinois, has lost two students to suicide just this school year.

These are not isolated events. We are seeing the impacts of the youth mental health crisis play out in schools and communities across my district and across the Nation. Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago has seen the number of children admitted as a result of suicide attempts increase from two to three children per month to two to three per day. There are now 3,000 children on their waitlist for outpatient mental healthcare. This is absolutely heartbreaking.

However, I find hope in seeing young people in my community stand up in the face of tragedy and demand solutions from their schools and government officials. They shouldn't have to do this, but they are organizing, participating in school board meetings, and writing and calling my office. I want them to know that I hear them, and I am fighting for them.

This summer, I introduced the Child Suicide Prevention and Lethal Means Safety Act to invest in educating healthcare providers and evidence-based youth suicide prevention measures. It is absolutely critical that we act immediately to address the growing unmet need for more school-based mental health providers.

That is why I am fighting for the maximum possible funding through the Department of Education for the school-based mental health workforce in the omnibus appropriations package. I am inviting all Members to join this bipartisan effort.

Last month, I was proud to join Assistant Speaker KATHERINE CLARK to introduce the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Act to provide consistent, long-term funding to support schools in hiring more school-based mental health providers and

meet the recommended student-to-provider ratios.

As we begin another year of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, we must target resources toward supporting the mental health of kids in school. As U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy warned in his recent advisory on youth mental health: "It would be a tragedy if we beat back one public health crisis only to allow another to grow in its place."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both the House and Senate to work together and across the aisle to pass legislation, including a fiscal year 2022 spending package, that makes necessary investments in combating the mental health crisis facing young people.

We must seize this critical opportunity to build better, safer, and more supportive environments for our young people to grow and thrive.

UNDERSTANDING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S FAILURES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because I need this Congress to understand the failures of President Biden as our Nation's Commander in Chief.

This administration was handed the reins to a country that had an economy that was ready to bounce back after pandemic restrictions, a southern border that was more secure than any other point in our Nation's history, and a foreign policy that had us respected around the globe. Instead of simply being a caretaker, who ran on being a unifying force—and I want to say that again; he ran on being a unifying force—this President chose to play politics of division from day one and began dismantling all the positive policies of President Trump.

In January 2021, the President halted construction of the border wall and overturned countless immigration policies that clearly worked. These policies stopped dangerous caravans from bringing thousands of illegal aliens to our southern border. These policies protected thousands of illegals from the horrors of human trafficking, and these policies kept not only our country's borders safe but the community of the entire world safe as well.

In this President's first year, he chose to spend trillions of American tax dollars on COVID relief. He spent those dollars on the backs of our children and grandchildren when there was nearly a trillion dollars from previous relief packages still unspent.

This wasteful spending that has included payments to keep people from working has led to our Nation's supply chain disaster and the highest inflation in nearly 40 years, not to mention the labor shortage that we are facing now.

Last week, President Biden gave a speech in Georgia that was not only divisive and hateful but downright despicable—from the man who ran on: I am going to unify this country.

He demanded that Congress give him what he wants, and anyone who opposes him is a racist and a bigot. Seriously? That is the best you have? When you can't debate the issues, you resort to calling half of the American people and anyone who doesn't agree with you a racist and a bigot? I think the American people deserve a little bit better.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle railed against President Trump for anything they deemed divisive. So I ask them this: Will they condemn this? Will they condemn their President for calling half of all Americans racist? I doubt it.

Madam Speaker, I grew up through the disastrous Presidency of Jimmy Carter. President Carter is often considered the worst President in modern history. It appears President Biden wants to take that crown.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HIGHLIGHTING THE LEFT'S COVID HYPOCRISY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the left's widespread misinformation and hypocrisy surrounding the coronavirus pandemic.

After repeatedly promising to shut down COVID-19 and vowing that all Americans would have access to regular, reliable, and free testing, the Biden administration has added a new crisis to its growing list of failures: the COVID crisis.

As our Nation faces a testing shortage, which began before the holiday season, I find it appropriate to quote President Biden himself from 2020: "Where are the tests, Mr. President?"

Considering all the coronavirus funding that Congress has provided the administration, that is the multitrillion-dollar question that has only been answered with deflection and poor leadership.

Interestingly, now that the coronavirus death count is higher under President Biden than President Trump, the Centers for Disease Control, or the CDC, is apparently separating the data now to reveal how many Americans have died with COVID compared to how many have died from COVID.

Republicans have been shouting this difference from the rooftops for over 2 years, during which the left quickly labeled our valid concerns as conspiracies. Yet, when the important difference can provide cover to the President, Democrats jump on board, and the leftwing media hides the hypocrisy. How convenient.

In fact, CDC Director Walensky recently admitted that 75 percent—yes, 75 percent—of COVID deaths occurred in people with at least four comorbidities.

Every life is precious, and families deserve the truth. The question must be answered: How many Americans died with COVID compared to how many died from COVID? Our government agencies should have been reporting health data accurately from the beginning, not as a matter of political cover.

Since Biden can't shut down COVID, suddenly, this data is being shared publicly. It is no wonder polling indicates that public trust in the CDC is plummeting.

Science is respected when people are skeptical, when people ask questions. None of that is happening now. Nobody questions the outcomes. And we wonder why the CDC has lost credibility. We wonder why people think the new meaning of the acronym is the center for Democrat control.

Keep in mind, this is all unfolding as we discover more evidence that Dr. Fauci, the highest-paid government official—an unelected one, I might add—has continuously concealed the truth concerning gain of function research at the Chinese Wuhan Institute of Virology, including his own knowledge and his own involvement.

Meanwhile, the administration continues to seek his deceptive guidance to push the narrative that we need more government control. Fauci's lies, the CDC's total lack of credibility, and the President's inability to rise to the moment and effectively lead all contribute to the COVID crisis, causing great damage and harm to the American people.

SUPPORTING SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the sanctity of human life.

Later this week, on January 22, our Nation will mourn the 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, a treacherous decision that has led to the murder of more than 62 million innocent babies. That is more than 62 million dreams never achieved, talents never realized, and lives never lived. In the blink of an eye, their chance of a happy life and a promising future has vanished. May God have mercy on their unborn souls.

What an unspeakable tragedy that corrupts the morals and values that our great country was founded on over two centuries ago. I am proud to have cosponsored H. Res. 58, led by my good friend JODY HICE, to memorialize the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* as the day of tears by lowering our flag to half-staff each year in honor of the unborn lives lost to the evils of abortion.

After being involved with the crisis pregnancy center in Athens, Georgia, for nearly two decades, I can confirm to you that the consequences of abortion go well beyond the murder of millions of precious lives. Despite being portrayed as a simple and quick solu-

tion, abortion ultimately alters at least three lives instead of one: a child that is lost forever, a mother that is scarred for life, and a father that is burdened with lifelong guilt.

We must never downplay the evils of abortion. As an unapologetic pro-life advocate, I am proud to defend the unborn and fight for the sanctity of life because every life is invaluable, worthy, and made in the perfect image of God.

ENDING THE SCOURGE OF ABORTION IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, all children are created by God at conception with a purpose. We must continue our work to end the scourge of abortion in America without exception.

The strides that we have made for the pro-life movement over recent years are incredible, and I am honored to be part of a group of such hard-working pro-life legislators.

Our daughters are part of the pro-life generation, full of students and young women that want to protect life in the womb. They have seen their siblings in sonograms. They have seen the pictures, and when they are told it is a glob of tissue, they know better.

I introduced the Protecting Life on College Campuses Act, which would prohibit any Federal funds from going to a college or university which is supplying dangerous chemical abortion pills.

This past Christmas, the week before Christmas, while no one was looking, the Biden administration and Governor Pritzker advanced very radical abortion policies, which are deeply unpopular with the American people. They want to remove parental involvement every step of the way for minors receiving an abortion because they are not pro-choice; they are pro-abortion.

Standing strong in this fight, we are participating in what could be potentially the last March for Life under *Roe*, and I could not be more thrilled.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING SHIRLEY WATERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Mrs. Shirley Waters of Rome, New York, for her outstanding leadership and service.

Sadly, Mrs. Waters passed away this December at the age of 100, leaving a legacy of service whose impact is felt throughout our entire area.

Shirley and her late husband, George Waters, have been devoted pillars of our community. The Waters family has owned and published the Rome Daily Sentinel newspaper since 1928. Shirley served as the vice president until her retirement in 2012.

Our family also published a newspaper in central New York, and I have always been inspired by Shirley's endless energy, good humor, and, yes, strong opinions on many subjects—a woman after my own heart.

□ 1100

I have also always been inspired by Shirley's tenacity and commitment to informing our community with depth and integrity, something that the Rome Daily Sentinel has always done throughout its history.

In addition to being a publisher, Shirley was a beloved mother of five who was active in her church and a member of our local artist community. Shirley's paintings hang in galleries in our region and live on to evoke wonder and inspire serenity to so many.

Shirley was also an honored member of the Order of Saint Barbara, as well as an honorary member of the Northeast Air Defense Sector. Shirley even helped secure the B-52 bomber displayed in Rome at the entrance to the former Griffiss Air Force Base, which she obtained from the national B-52 museum committee.

On behalf of our community and those in the news business who are committed to serving the public as true members of the fourth estate, we are grateful to Shirley Waters for being our standard-bearer. We are also grateful to her for her distinguished service to our community beyond her role as a newspaper publisher.

Her legacy will continue to live on in so many important ways, from the great newspaper she leaves, the Rome Daily Sentinel, to her work which she also loved, to her works of art that are exhibited throughout our region, and her strong belief in our region's greatness and history.

My deepest condolences to the Waters family on the loss of this wonderful, venerable wife, mother, grandmother, and tenacious community leader with a wonderful sense of humor.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER KEVIN BEACH

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rome Police Chief Kevin Beach who will retire at the end of January after an incredible career and true devotion to public service.

Kevin first joined the Rome Police Department in September of 1994, following in his father's footsteps. Kevin's father, Bruce, also served the department for many years. Kevin showed leadership early on the job and was promoted quickly to the rank of detective after only 6 years.

In 2005, Kevin was appointed detective commander and then deputy chief in 2007. In 2008, he was appointed as the youngest police chief in the history of the city of Rome.

At just 36, Kevin had served the department for only 14 years but was picked for the top spot because of his exemplary track record and strong leadership skills. Kevin's hard work, dedication, and love for the city was evident every day he was on the job.

During his tenure as chief, the department introduced community programs such as Shop with a Cop, Law Enforcement Day, and the creation of a Community Impact Unit. Kevin has also successfully navigated the department through difficult times through the COVID-19 pandemic and the national defund the police movement.

Kevin, thank you for your lifetime of service and commitment to the city of Rome. We are grateful for your devotion to service on behalf of your community. I also want to thank you for your friendship and sage counsel to me and so many others during your important work as our chief. May you enjoy a productive and healthy retirement.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER DAVID DRAUDT

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, it is often said that law enforcement officers work for a cause, not applause. This is certainly true and today I would like to recognize a trooper from the southern tier of New York's 22nd district who deserves our applause.

Trooper David Draudt went to work on the morning of November 29 with the intent to protect and serve. Yet, on that day Trooper Draudt not only protected and served his community, but he also called on his extensive training to courageously save the life of an unresponsive 2-year-old boy who had choked himself into unconsciousness. Trooper Draudt didn't lace up his boots that morning intent on saving a life. But that is exactly what he did.

Law enforcement officers do not have the opportunity of choosing who or what they encounter each day. They rely on their training and their knowledge and their experiences to respond with honor, courage, and integrity and, of course, compassion to whatever situation may arise. On November 29, that is exactly what Trooper Draudt did.

Today, our cause is applause; applause not just for Trooper Draudt who saved the life of a child, but to all who answer the call to serve.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our redeemer, preserver, and friend, hear our prayers this day as we seek to live our lives in obedience to You.

For You have not set us apart from this world, but have placed us into our communities, then sent us into positions of authority, so that we would be salt to the Earth; to preserve and protect the ideals on which this country was founded; to enhance and uphold the virtues by which this government was formed; to live our lives according to Your divine Word.

May we not take lightly this extraordinary opportunity You have given us or allow our words or actions to become corrosive or damaging in the exercise of our influence.

Rather, may our faithfulness to Your Word serve the purpose of enhancing the lives of those around us and the purposes for which You have sent us.

Grant us, then, together a peaceful relationship, that the salt that we are and the hallowed responsibilities we share together would serve to glorify You.

In the gift of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRANSFORMING BUFFALO'S WATERFRONT

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs law will invest more than \$14 billion this year alone in the Nation's ports and waterways.

In my community, this will provide \$10 million for Times Beach Nature Preserve on Buffalo's Outer Harbor to preserve and improve the natural habitats and parkland.

Once a dumping ground for contaminated Buffalo River sludge, today Times Beach is a vibrant 55-acre home for wildlife and a destination for visitors.

This funding will support work by the United States Army Corps, Buffalo District to fortify the breakwater at

Times Beach, to help restore public access that was lost in storm damage 2 years ago, and to reduce the influence of that kind of damage from happening in the future.

This funding builds on previous Federal Great Lakes and infrastructure investments that are transforming Buffalo's waterfront and revitalizing the western New York community.

CONGRATULATING RIVERHEADS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, high school athletics play an important role in the lives of so many young people in the communities that they live in, which is why I have a policy of speaking from the floor to congratulate my district's State championship teams.

Today, I am here to honor the Riverheads High School football team, which won the VHSL Class 1 State title last month. Not only did the Gladiators best their opponent by an impressive 45-14 point margin, but this victory marked the team's sixth consecutive State championship, the only football program in VHSL history to accomplish such a feat.

And if that weren't monumental enough, the game was also the team's 50th straight win, which is the longest active winning streak in our Nation.

For the past 26 years, this team has been led by Coach Robert Casto, who has sadly announced that he will be retiring at the end of the school year. Coach Casto's remarkable coaching career comes to an end with an overall record of 59 losses and 261 wins, including nine State championships.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize this talented football team and their remarkable coach. Go Gladiators.

DEMOCRATS HAVE DELIVERED FOR THE PEOPLE

(Mr. LIEU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, last year Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan that provided funding to schools so they could reopen, funding to cities and States so that first responders, municipal employees, and county employees didn't get laid off, and it got stimulus checks to the American people.

As a result, we were able to have over 6 million jobs created since January 20, 2020, and the lowest unemployment rate now in nearly 50 years.

However, with the opening of our economies across the world, inflation has happened, including in the United States, and that is why I am so pleased that the Biden administration has announced \$14 billion to go to 500 Army Corps of Engineers projects, including

at ports to help with supply chain issues. By making sure we can move goods faster and easier and to address these supply chain issues, we will reduce the cost of goods, and that was because Democrats also passed the infrastructure law. Democrats have delivered for the people.

SANITY MAY BE RETURNING

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in a political environment where even Democrats have cited the Biden agenda as fiscal insanity, it is reassuring sanity may be returning with the Democrat Washington Post last Tuesday and Thursday being remarkably sane.

On Tuesday, the lead editorial correctly reviewed, "President Biden is facing mounting criticism for inflation's rise to its highest level since 1982. Unfortunately, the White House's latest response is to blame greedy businesses. Economists across the political spectrum are rightly calling out the White House for this foolishness."

On Thursday, front-page headlines were shocking: Inflation for 2021 highest in 40 years. Trend expected to last for months. Prices become potent political threat to Biden.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that trillion-dollar spending costs zero dollars.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America, as sadly we saw with the suicide bomber who attacked the synagogue in Texas on Saturday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY SHERIFF SEAN RILEY

(Mrs. MILLER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Wayne County Deputy Sheriff Sean Riley.

Our communities in Illinois and across the Nation continue to mourn the loss of our fallen hero.

Deputy Riley was called home to be with the Lord on December 29, 2021. He was on duty, responding to assist a motorist when he was shot and killed.

May God continue to comfort this family as they grieve this awful loss. Wayne County Sheriff Otey said, "The only thing Sean cared about more than being a deputy was his family."

Please join me in prayer for the family of Deputy Sean Riley, the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and our community in Illinois.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH

(Mr. TAYLOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to stand in solidarity with the many Americans, including my own constituents from Texas' Third Congressional District, who are here at our Nation's Capital to march for the right to life.

As a father of three wonderful daughters, I know how precious every stage of life is, and I believe it should be protected at every stage.

Every year, I am awed by the outpouring of love and passion so many Texans show by traveling to Washington and voicing their support for sanctity of life. Even more travel to our state capital in Austin to advance the cause in our local communities.

Your engagement is humbling, and it gives me faith that we can become the pro-life generation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the pro-life and faith leaders here in our Nation's Capital and join in fighting to protect innocent human life.

CONGRATULATING GEORGIA BULLDOGS FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am very excited to announce H. Res. 872, which has bipartisanship. The entire Georgia delegation has signed on congratulating the University of Georgia Bulldogs football team for winning the 2022 National Collegiate Athletic Association College Football Playoff National Championship. Go Dawgs.

We are also excited, and I am honored to have everyone's signature on this House resolution honoring the University of Georgia and their great championship win this year in 2022 and Coach Kirby Smart for leading the team to victory this year.

We just want to continue to share our excitement in Georgia, congratulating the University of Georgia.

CONCERNED PARENTS ARE NOT DOMESTIC TERRORISTS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, concerned parents have a God-given right to make decisions for their child's best interests, not the Federal Government, the Biden administration, or teachers' unions.

Yet, Education Secretary Cardona colluded with private parties to get the FBI to investigate concerned parents and worked with the National School Boards Association to brand the concerned parents involved as domestic terrorists.

In the infamous letter which the Secretary solicited from the National School Boards Association, he suggested using the PATRIOT Act and that the FBI should begin investigating concerned parents at school board meetings. The letter had nothing to do with curriculum. The topic was how to vilify and target parents that disagreed with the narrative.

Secretary Cardona has repeatedly denied involvement in the letter, but recently released documents have exposed the truth. These actions show a clear pattern that puts politics over the interests of the parents and especially their children and their education.

Parents are right to be concerned about their kids being taught radical ideologies or being exposed to inappropriate materials. Every parent in the Nation, regardless of ideology, should be alarmed that the Federal Government is trying to strip away their rights and use these underhanded methods to try to silence them.

□ 1215

AMERICANS ARE FACING ONE CRISIS AFTER ANOTHER

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks the 1-year anniversary of one-party, radical rule in D.C.

With Democrats at the helm, Americans have faced one crisis after another, unfortunately. We have the highest inflation in 41 years, supply chain disruptions, workforce shortages in critical industries, spikes in energy costs; record numbers of people and drugs illegally entering our southern border, a surge in crime, national security threats, a series of foreign relations disasters; in my opinion, a mismanaged pandemic, and countless examples of government intrusion into all aspects of our lives.

Instead of addressing these problems, Democrats have doubled down on failed policies, have engaged in out-of-control spending, and are trying to control every aspect of Americans' lives.

This is not the way forward.

I recently asked my constituents one simple question: "Is your family better off than you were a year ago?" Almost 70 percent of the respondents said no. Fixing that problem should be Congress' main priority.

PIKE COUNTY DESERVES A LARGER PILT PAYMENT

(Mr. RYAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, payments in lieu of taxes, or PILTs, are Federal payments to local governments to help offset losses in property

taxes due to the presence of nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries.

Through my role on the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I have gotten to know the good people of Pike County, Ohio, where the Department of Energy owns 3,700 acres of land where a uranium enrichment plant once operated. And wouldn't you know it, Pike County has one of the highest cancer rates in the State of Ohio.

Yet, their PILT payment is a paltry \$47,000 a year. These are the people who enriched the uranium during the Cold War; they live in southern Ohio where corporations have gone in, extracted resources, and taken the profits out, and now we need to help this community get the kind of payment that they need. For all the radiation, all the sacrifice that they have made and endured over the years, it is long past time that the Federal Government increased the PILT payment for Pike County, Ohio.

RECOGNIZING DR. DAVID WAGNER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Venango Area Chamber Citizen of the Year, Dr. David Wagner.

Dr. Wagner currently owns and operates the Wagner Family Eye Care in Seneca.

Dr. Wagner is a graduate of North Clarion High School, Gannon University, and the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Dr. Wagner continues to be an active citizen of Venango County. He is dedicated to giving back not only in the area but around the world.

Dr. Wagner currently serves on the board for the Oil City Rotary Club and the Venango County Association for the Blind, in addition to being involved in his church, Second Presbyterian.

Despite staying busy, Dr. Wagner finds time to volunteer with other community groups, Mr. Speaker, and mentors young adults in the area.

Dr. Wagner continues his service outside of Venango by participating in Through God's Eyes and ZUMC to provide eye care to people in need throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Wagner on this tremendous honor and thank him for his continued dedication to those of Venango County and around the world.

THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION HAS STRUCK OUT

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, for a year, the Biden administration has struck out on every jobs report.

If this were a baseball game, this administration would have been benched long ago.

Economists predicted that 450,000 new jobs would be added in the month of December.

But what was the result? A dismal 199,000 jobs were added, the worst report of Joe Biden's Presidency.

Mr. Speaker, with these kinds of numbers, America's economy and workforce will never recover.

No matter how this administration spins these failures, one thing is abundantly clear: You cannot swing, miss, and then claim you have hit a home run.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

PUERTO RICO RECOVERY ACCURACY IN DISCLOSURES ACT OF 2021

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1192) to impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as "PROMESA").

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA".

SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE BY PROFESSIONAL PERSONS SEEKING APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 316 OR 317 OF PROMESA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) LIST OF MATERIAL INTERESTED PARTIES.—The term "List of Material Interested Parties" means the List of Material Interested Parties established under subsection (c)(1).

(2) OVERSIGHT BOARD.—The term "Oversight Board" has the meaning given the term in section 5 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2104).

(b) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), no attorney, accountant, appraiser, auctioneer, agent, or other professional person may be compensated under section 316 or 317 of that Act (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) unless prior to making a request for compensation, the professional person has filed with the court a verified statement conforming to the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure setting forth the connection of the professional person with any entity or person on the List of Material Interested Parties.

(2) SUPPLEMENT.—A professional person that submits a statement under paragraph (1) shall promptly supplement the statement with any additional relevant information that becomes known to the person.

(3) **DISCLOSURE.**—Subject to any other applicable law, rule, or regulation, a professional person that fails to file or update a statement required under paragraph (1) or files a statement that the court determines does not represent a good faith effort to comply with this section shall disclose such failure in any filing required to conform to the disclosure requirements under rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

(c) **LIST OF MATERIAL INTERESTED PARTIES.**—

(1) **PREPARATION.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Oversight Board shall establish a List of Material Interested Parties subject to—

(A) the approval of the court; and
(B) the right of the United States trustee or any party in interest to be heard on the approval.

(2) **INCLUSIONS.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the List of Material Interested Parties shall include—

(A) the debtor;
(B) any creditor;
(C) any other party in interest;
(D) any attorney or accountant of—
(i) the debtor;
(ii) any creditor; or
(iii) any other party in interest;
(E) the United States trustee and any person employed in the office of the United States trustee; and
(F) the Oversight Board, including the members, the Executive Director, and the employees of the Oversight Board.

(3) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The List of Material Interested Parties may not include any person with a claim, the amount of which is below a threshold dollar amount established by the court that is consistent with the purpose of this Act.

(d) **REVIEW.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The United States trustee shall review each verified statement submitted pursuant to subsection (b) and may file with the court comments on such verified statements before the professionals filing such statements seek compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177).

(2) **OBJECTION.**—The United States trustee may object to applications filed under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) that fail to satisfy the requirements of subsection (b).

(e) **LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION.**—In a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), in connection with the review and approval of professional compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) filed after the date of enactment of this Act, the court may deny allowance of compensation or reimbursement of expenses if—

(1) the professional person has failed to file the verified disclosure statements required under subsection (b)(1) or has filed inadequate disclosure statements under that subsection; or

(2) during the professional person's employment in connection with the case, the professional person—

(A) is not a disinterested person (as defined in section 101 of title 11, United States Code) relative to any entity or person on the List of Material Interested Parties; or

(B) represents or holds an adverse interest in connection with the case.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extra-

neous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021, or PRRADA, is commonsense legislation that would promote greater transparency and integrity with respect to the ongoing financial reorganization of Puerto Rico. This will be the third time in just over 2 years that the House will vote on this legislation, but, Mr. Speaker, I think the third time will be the charm.

In response to dire fiscal issues facing Puerto Rico at the time, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, in 2016.

That legislation established the Financial Oversight and Management Board with control over Puerto Rico's budget, laws, financial plans, and regulations, and the authority to retain professionals to assist the Board in executing its responsibilities.

Although largely patterned on Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, PROMESA did not incorporate all facets of Chapter 11 and other relevant provisions of the code.

Importantly, this includes the code's mandatory disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest that professional persons seeking to be retained in a bankruptcy case must make to the court prior to their retention.

This bill would close that loophole by conditioning the compensation of professional persons retained under PROMESA under certain disclosures similar to those required under the Bankruptcy Code.

Additionally, the bill would require the United States Trustee to review these disclosures and to submit comments in response to the court, and it also authorizes the United States Trustee to object to compensation requested by professionals.

And finally, H.R. 1192 would allow courts to deny compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses if the professional person did not comply with the disclosure requirement, or represented or held an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate. Common sense.

The House passed H.R. 1192 last February, and the Senate passed an amended version of the Act last December. The Senate amendments streamlined PRRADA's reporting requirements, strengthened the incentives for good faith compliance, and clarify other provisions of the Act.

Now, Puerto Rico's restructuring is drawing to a close, which makes passage of this legislation especially urgent.

I thank Representative VELÁZQUEZ for her leadership in championing this

bill and for her relentless dedication to ensuring that the people of Puerto Rico receive the fair, efficient, and transparent restructuring process they deserve.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which was passed out of the House last year and the year before by unanimous votes, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021.

In 2016, Puerto Rico was experiencing severe financial pressure from significant debt and related obligations.

In response to Puerto Rico's financial distress, Congress enacted the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act of 2016. That 2016 law created a bankruptcy process for Puerto Rico.

Like existing bankruptcy law in 2016, the law permitted certain professionals working on Puerto Rico's bankruptcy, like lawyers and accountants, to apply to get paid for their services pending judicial approval.

But the 2016 law lacked certain disclosure requirements for these professionals that would typically apply to restructuring professionals in other bankruptcy cases.

The gap in the 2016 law created the potential for undisclosed conflicts of interest for professionals involved in Puerto Rico's bankruptcy.

This bill fills the gap by mandating the necessary disclosure requirements. The bill also establishes a process for overseeing and policing disclosures that bankruptcy professionals make.

H.R. 1192 passed the House unanimously in February of 2021. In December, the Senate passed H.R. 1192 with a few minor amendments to improve the bill's administrative abilities. The amendments also enhanced the incentives for professionals to make significant efforts to comply with the new disclosure requirements.

H.R. 1192 will serve important goals and interests, including the interests of creditors and taxpayers and Puerto Rico itself.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the approval in the House of the Senate amendment to H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021.

I joined Representative VELÁZQUEZ to promote this bipartisan and commonsense bill to help ensure the restructuring process under PROMESA serves Puerto Rico's interests. Actually, just

this week, the plan was approved by the Federal Court, so this is perfect timing to approve this bill today.

Though it required some technical corrections, it is satisfying to see this bill has already achieved passage in both Chambers. I wish for my colleague, Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ, to be fully recovered in time to see it become law.

The intent of this legislation remains the same, and this bill will require any person or firm hired as legal, financial or technical staff or consultants for the Financial Oversight Board in the court cases for the restructuring of Puerto Rico's debt, to submit verified disclosures of all connections with debtors, creditors, or other interested parties in the process, before being compensated.

Our intention is not to exclude people with experience in Puerto Rico's financial transactions from being resources in the restructuring process, but it is essential that their connection to any parties interested in those transactions be known. Conflict of interest, or the appearance of conflict of interest, can be best avoided if there is accountability and transparency.

Anyone working to inform the Board's decisions, or representing it before the court, needs to be committed to defending the interests of the people of Puerto Rico first, in accordance with the law and justice.

Lack of transparency creates a lack of trust, and this bill will work toward avoiding that by making these disclosures a legal mandate rather than the Board's own discretion.

Our goal is to reach the day we no longer need the provisions of PROMESA and the Oversight Board, but until that happens, these instruments must be accountable and transparent.

I ask my colleagues to support the passage of the Senate amendment to H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021.

□ 1230

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I just reiterate that I think there is a lot of support in the Chamber, and I support it as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, in closing, H.R. 1192 closes a loophole under current law by establishing disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest in the bankruptcy process under PROMESA. In doing so, this legislation promotes transparency and accountability in the Puerto Rico restructuring process.

I thank my colleague, Representative VELÁZQUEZ from New York, the author of the bill, for her leadership on this issue, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021. I was proud to introduce this bill with bipartisan support in the House. I would like to thank House Speaker NANCY PELOSI and Chairman JERRY NADLER for bringing this legislation to the floor and to Senator BOB MENENDEZ for introducing a companion bill in the Senate and for his tireless efforts to make sure this Bill would get approved in the Senate.

H.R. 1192 already unanimously passed this House back on February 24, 2021 and I expect to do so the same today.

The Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021 or "PRRADA" eliminates a double standard currently facing Puerto Rico. Under U.S. Code and Federal Bankruptcy procedure, any conflicts of interest—or even the perception of such conflict—between those working on the bankruptcy and the debtor are required to be disclosed.

However, a loophole in the current law prevents this requirement from being extended to the people of Puerto Rico.

In 2016, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, otherwise known as PROMESA. When PROMESA was originally passed, it incorporated Chapter 11's bankruptcy requirement that professionals file fee applications with the court. But PROMESA did not include Chapter 11's disclosure requirements that go hand-in-hand with those fee applications. PRRADA remedies this and makes sure that professionals paid by the taxpayers of Puerto Rico are fully transparent about what interests they are serving.

Puerto Ricans should be confident that the Board's bankruptcy advisors do not have their "thumb on the scale" to favor certain debts where they have a self-interest. This bipartisan bill ensures integrity and transparency of the PROMESA process.

While we can have differing opinions on how effectively the Oversight Board is carrying out its mission, one thing should be clear—the island's residents should be entitled to the same rights and protections as any debtor on the mainland.

Once more, I would like to thank Chairman NADLER, the Committee Staff and the bipartisan cosponsors of this bill. I strongly encourage all members to vote "Yes" on this critical piece of legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1192.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GHOST ARMY CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S.

1404) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company, popularly known as the "Ghost Army", in recognition of their unique and highly distinguished service in conducting deception operations in Europe during World War II.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1404

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the 23d Headquarters Special Troops (comprised of the 23d Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Troops, the 603d Engineer Camouflage Battalion, the 406th Combat Engineer Company, the 3132d Signal Service Company, and the Signal Company, Special, 23d Headquarters, Special Troops) and the 3133d Signal Service Company were units of the United States Army that served in Europe during World War II;

(2) the 23d Headquarters Special Troops was actively engaged in battlefield operations from June of 1944 through March of 1945;

(3) the 3133d Signal Service Company was engaged in operations in Italy in 1945;

(4) the deceptive activities of these units were integral to several Allied victories across Europe and reduced casualties;

(5) in evaluating the performance of these units after World War II, an Army analysis found that "Rarely, if ever, has there been a group of such a few men which had so great an influence on the outcome of a major military campaign.";

(6) many Ghost Army soldiers were citizen-soldiers recruited from art schools, advertising agencies, communications companies, and other creative and technical professions;

(7) the first 4 members of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops landed on D-Day and 2 became casualties while creating false beach landing sites;

(8) a detachment of Army radio operators under the command of Lieutenant Fred Fox joined the invasion fleet for a planned deception, Operation Troutfly, which was cancelled;

(9) Lieutenant Fox's men and their radios were instead attached to the 82d Airborne, which had lost 95 percent of its radio equipment, providing critical communications as the 82d Airborne fought its way inland;

(10) the secret deception operations of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops commenced in France on June 14, 1944, when Task Force Mason, a 16-man detachment of the 23d led by First Lieutenant Bernard Mason, arrived in Normandy;

(11) Lieutenant Mason and his men set up dummy artillery to draw enemy fire and protect the 980th Field Artillery Battalion (VIII Corps) as part of the Normandy Campaign;

(12) the rest of the soldiers of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops arrived in France in July and August of 1944;

(13) full-scale deception efforts began with Operation Elephant from July 1 to 4, 1944, in which the 23d Headquarters Special Troops covered the movement of the 2d Armored Division when it left a reserve position to go into the line between the First United States and Second British Armies;

(14) Operation Elephant was the first of the 21 full-scale tactical deceptions completed by the 23d Headquarters Special Troops;

(15) often operating on or near the front lines, the 23d Headquarters Special Troops used inflatable tanks, artillery, airplanes and other vehicles, advanced engineered soundtracks, and skillfully crafted radio trickery to create the illusion of sizable American forces where there were none and to draw the enemy away from Allied troops;

(16) the 3132d and the 3133d Signal Service Companies, activated in Pine Camp (now Fort Drum), New York, at the Army Experimental Station in March and June of 1944, respectively, were the only “sonic deception” ground combat units of the United States in World War II;

(17) soldiers of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops impersonated other, larger Army units by sewing counterfeit patches onto their uniforms, painting false markings on their vehicles, and creating phony headquarters staffed by fake generals, all in an effort to feed false information to Axis spies;

(18) during the Battle of the Bulge, the 23d Headquarters Special Troops created counterfeit radio traffic in an effort to deceive the enemy of the movement of elements of General George S. Patton’s Third Army as it shifted to break through to the 101st Airborne Division and elements of 10th Armored Division in the besieged Belgian town of Bastogne;

(19) in its final mission, Operation Viersen, in March 1945, the 23d Headquarters Special Troops conducted a tactical deception operation intended to draw German units down the Rhine River and away from the Ninth Army, allowing the Ninth Army to cross the Rhine into Germany;

(20) during Operation Viersen, the 23d Headquarters Special Troops, with the assistance of other units, impersonated 2 complete divisions of American forces by using fabricated radio networks, soundtracks of construction work and artillery fire, and hundreds of inflatable and real vehicles;

(21) according to a military intelligence officer of the 79th Infantry, “There is no doubt that Operation Viersen materially assisted in deceiving the enemy with regard to the real dispositions and intentions of this Army.”;

(22) 3 soldiers of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops gave their lives and dozens were injured in carrying out their mission;

(23) in April 1945, the 3133d Signal Service Company conducted Operation Craftsman in support of Operation Second Wind, the successful Allied effort to break through the German defensive position to the north of Florence, Italy, known as the Gothic Line;

(24) along with an attached platoon of British engineers, who were inflatable decoy specialists, the 3133d Signal Service Company used sonic deception to misrepresent troop locations along this defensive line;

(25) the activities of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company remained highly classified for more than 40 years after the war and received minimal recognition;

(26) the extraordinary accomplishments of this unit are deserving of belated official recognition; and

(27) the United States is eternally grateful to the soldiers of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company for their proficient use of innovative tactics during World War II, which saved lives and made significant contributions to the defeat of the Axis powers.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall make ap-

propriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company, known collectively as the “Ghost Army”, in recognition of unique and highly distinguished service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it shall be available for display as appropriate and made available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at other locations associated with the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company.

(d) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under this Act, at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDAL.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medals struck under this Act are national medals for the purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purpose of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 3(d) shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SEC. 6. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purposes of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 1404, the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act. I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts, Senator MARKEY, and the gentlewoman from New Hampshire, Congresswoman KUSTER, for their work on this bill which honors the resourcefulness, imagination, and artistry of the men of the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133rd Signal Company in conducting deception operations in Europe during World War II.

This 1,100-man unit, known collectively as the Ghost Army, was made up of individuals recruited from creative fields, including art schools, theater and communications companies, and advertising agencies. Their mission was to draw upon their creative and artistic talents to lure the German Army away from the Allied combat units through a series of tactical deception operations meant to confuse, deceive, and mislead.

Following the D-Day landing in France, the Ghost Army undertook a traveling road show utilizing fake radio transmissions, inflatable tanks, and theatrical sound and atmospheric effects to misdirect German units away from actual Allied unit locations and toward larger imaginary ones.

The artists, architects, and engineers of the Ghost Army were so effective that a later Army analysis of their performance found that “rarely, if ever, has there been a group of such few men which had so great an influence on the outcome of a major military campaign.”

Yet, despite the overwhelming success of the citizen soldiers of the Ghost Army, their contributions remained classified for over 40 years, and their bravery and ingenuity was never formally recognized.

This bill honors their unique contributions to the war effort by directing the Mint to strike a gold medal in honor of the Ghost Army. The gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it will be available for display and serve as recognition of the incredible service of the men of the Ghost Army during World War II.

I thank Mr. MARKEY and Ms. KUSTER for their work on this bill, and I urge Members to vote “yes.”

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1404, the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act, the Senate version of H.R. 707, which the House passed in May 2021.

The Ghost Army, comprised of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, is renowned for creating large-scale deception operations capable of pulling Axis focus away from the actual movements of the Allied forces.

During the early phases of World War II, the 23rd division mastered their skill of deception by studying unit atmosphere and collecting materials for their new special effects tactics.

Knowing that enemy ground agents looked for vehicle bumper markings, Allied shoulder patches, and well-defined checkpoints, the 23rd collected shoulder patches for phony major generals, created realistic inflatable vehicles and artillery, and even recorded the sounds of heavy machinery movements to sell their deception. They built their own modern-day Trojan horse, down to the last detail.

The Ghost Army, unlike many other units, was comprised of civilian soldiers with a proclivity for art, architecture, acting, set design, and engineering.

As Jack Masey, who was recruited into the Ghost Army at age 18, remembered: "We were told we were going to be using inflatable equipment to try and fool the Germans into thinking that we were a real army, when we were, in effect, I suppose, a rubber army."

□ 1245

Anyone who has watched a History Channel World War II documentary has undoubtedly seen the Ghost Army in action. The historic videos and herculean photos of four men holding a tank over their heads is a testament to the Ghost Army's ingenuity and bravery during World War II.

The 23rd did not limit their deception to the battlefield. In fact, on numerous occasions Ghosts were dispatched to French cafes near the front of the war to order some omelets and talk loose among the spies who might be there. The 23rd would go to great lengths to cause chaos and confusion, and they succeeded.

Mr. Speaker, recognizing these true American heroes hits close to home for me, as the 77th Ghost Army veterans originated from the great State of Kentucky.

There is no doubt that the Ghost Army saved thousands of lives during World War II. Their unique and highly distinguished service during this great war should be recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Ms. KUSTER, for her leadership on this, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. I yield 4½ minutes to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of veterans who have gone unrecognized for far too long.

In World War II, top secret units known as the Ghost Army used combat deception to literally fool the Nazis. Their mission was to divert enemy forces away from American combat units so that our troops faced less resistance. This required creativity and a special kind of courage.

Whereas a typical American unit had tanks made of steel, the Ghost Army, as you have heard from my colleagues, Mr. BARR and Ms. DEAN, built tanks made of rubber and wood. Using inflatable equipment and sonic deception, the Ghost Army made it appear as if there were tens of thousands of combat troops when there were literally none.

If the Germans ever discovered this ruse, the Ghost Army would have been annihilated. Throughout the war, the Ghost Army took this risk and, using their creativity and artistic talents, played a decisive role in Allied combat operations.

As Mr. BARR noted, in evaluating the performance of these units after World War II, an Army analysis found rarely, if ever, has there been a group of such few men who had such great influence on the outcome of a major military campaign. I might note that was the campaign that turned the tide of World War II.

To this day, combat deception units in the Army learn about the tactics that were used by the Ghost Army so many years ago. In this sense, the brave actions of the Ghost Army still are keeping Americans safe to this day.

The Ghost Army's combat deceptions were so effective that the Army kept them classified for over 40 years after the war. Because of this classification, the great men of the Ghost Army were never properly recognized for their heroism and contributions to defeating fascism in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, as noted, the House passed the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act that I introduced last spring. The Senate is now asking passage of the companion bill, S. 1404, introduced by Mr. MARKEY. This would right the wrong by awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to those living members of the Ghost Army. We will recognize the families of those who have passed.

I am proud that 75 years after their service, the Ghost Army is finally getting some of the recognition it earned.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the contributions of so many individuals in getting this bill over the finish line.

First, I want to thank my colleague, Representative STEWART, and his staff for dedicating themselves to this bill.

I also want to recognize a good friend of mine, Rick Beyer, and Roy Eichhorn. These two historians helped rediscover the Ghost Army's story and share it with the world.

Finally, I want to recognize all of the members of the Ghost Army Legacy Project. This coalition, made up largely of family members of Ghost Army veterans, worked tirelessly to help Representative STEWART and myself secure the 292 House cosponsors necessary to pass this bill.

It is a testament to this institution that a handful of passionate citizens, without the help of any special interest groups or lobbyists, can build the support necessary to send this legislation

to President Biden's desk. So it is fitting that we pass this bill today.

Of the more than 16 million Americans who served in World War II, barely more than 240,000 are still alive, including just nine members of the Ghost Army. We should never forget the contributions of the Ghost Army and all the servicemembers in World War II to preserve democracy around the world.

This is personal for me because my father, Malcolm McLane, was a fighter pilot and a POW during World War II. While today we rightfully single out the brave actions of the Ghost Army, I hope we also take a moment to remember all of our World War II veterans.

In closing, I want to note what made the Ghost Army special was not just their extraordinary courage but their creativity. Their story reminds us that listening to unconventional ideas, like using visual and sound deception, can help us solve existential challenges like defeating tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from Pennsylvania. I thank my friend and colleague from New Hampshire.

I would just reiterate the significance of the Ghost Army. I thank my colleagues for recognizing these extraordinary members of the Greatest Generation and their significant contributions to our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 1404, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

On a personal note, I would like to recognize First Lieutenant Bernard Mason, mentioned in the text of this bill, for his leadership in leading the 16-man detachment of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops during the invasion of Normandy. Lieutenant Mason was a constituent of mine before his passing, and his wife and children still live in my district. I want to thank them for Lieutenant Mason's life and service. Today we are finally honoring his service and those of his brothers-in-arms in perpetuity.

The stories of the creativity and innovation displayed by the members of the Ghost Army during World War II read like something straight out of a Hollywood blockbuster script. The only thing missing is a Hollywood ending where the brave members of the Ghost Army are finally recognized for their lifesaving contributions to defeating the Axis Powers during World War II. This bill ensures official recognition for this heroic group of citizen soldiers and their unique contributions to the war effort.

I thank Mr. MARKEY and Ms. KUSTER, the lead sponsor of the House version of this bill, for ensuring that the stories of these men of the Ghost Army receive the recognition they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1404.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILLIE O'REE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 452) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 452

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Willie O'Ree was the first Black player to compete in the National Hockey League (NHL), appearing for the Boston Bruins on January 18, 1958, in the throes of the civil rights movement in the United States helping to end racial segregation in the premier professional ice hockey league; he is widely referred to as the "Jackie Robinson of Hockey".

(2) Willie O'Ree was born October 15, 1935, in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada; he is the youngest of 13 children and a descendant of Paris O'Ree, whose name appears in the famous historical document "The Book of Negroes".

(3) Willie O'Ree was raised by his parents in Fredericton, a predominantly White town where hockey was deeply rooted within the culture. O'Ree was a standout athlete on the ice and the baseball diamond.

(4) At age 21, O'Ree was being scouted by professional baseball teams and seriously considered baseball as a career. Upon experiencing the segregated South for the first time while appearing for a minor league tryout, his dream changed and his attention turned solely to ice hockey.

(5) While playing amateur hockey, Willie was struck in his right eye with a puck and lost his eyesight. He was told by doctors to abandon his hockey career; instead, never disclosing the extent of his injury, he pursued his dream of playing professional hockey.

(6) At the age of 22, O'Ree was called up from the Quebec Aces of the Quebec Hockey League (QHL) to play for the NHL's Boston Bruins at a time when only 6 teams existed in the league. O'Ree was unaware he had broken the color barrier at the top level of the sport until he read it in the newspaper the following day.

(7) Blind in 1 eye and a victim of racism at times throughout his career, O'Ree persevered and played professional hockey for 22 years, tallying over 1,000 points.

(8) In 1996, 17 years after O'Ree retired from professional hockey, the National Hockey League hired O'Ree as the first-ever Diversity Ambassador. Having already changed the game forever through his courage and convictions, O'Ree gives new definition to what it means to be a trailblazer.

(9) In this role as Diversity Ambassador with the NHL, O'Ree set out to grow the sport by providing access, opportunity, and motivation for children of all races, ethnicities, origins, and abilities. With O'Ree providing a vivid example of what is possible and serving as a relentless supporter of children pursuing their dreams, more than 30 nonprofit youth organizations, dubbed Hockey is for Everyone programs, were developed across North America, each committed to offering minority and underserved children an opportunity to play hockey, leveraging the sport to build character, foster positive values, and develop important life skills.

(10) Through Hockey is for Everyone programs, more than 120,000 boys and girls have been positively impacted. O'Ree has devoted nearly 2,500 days on the ground with the youth participants, visiting more than 500 schools, community centers, and rinks to speak to hockey's core values and beliefs: stay in school; set goals for yourself; remain committed and disciplined; and always respect your teammates, coaches, and parents.

(11) Hockey is for Everyone programs have provided important opportunities for youth to partake in physical fitness. Today in the United States, fewer than half of the children ages 6–11 engage in the recommended amount of physical activity, and that number is lower for low-income families. O'Ree has stood as a champion of youth athletic participation and its health benefits for decades.

(12) Hockey is for Everyone programs provide numerous off-ice services to youth: SAT and academic tutoring, mentoring, nutrition education, college counseling, community service opportunities, and more. The program has excelled at using hockey as a vehicle to improve the social and emotional wellness of youth and improve students' academic performances both in primary school and beyond.

(13) O'Ree was also named a Member of the Order of Canada in 2008 and, in 2018, the City of Boston released an official Proclamation recognizing January 18, the anniversary of the day he broke into the game, as "Willie O'Ree Day".

(14) In November 2018, 60 years after O'Ree entered the NHL, he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in the "builder" category in recognition of his efforts to grow the game, using his position and the platform of hockey to improve the lives of children throughout North America.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of the Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to Willie O'Ree, or if unavailable, to a member of his family, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary. The design shall bear an image of, and an inscription of the name of, Willie O'Ree.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals

under subsection (a) shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

(c) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 452, the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act.

I thank Michigan Senator STABENOW and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for their work on this bill which honors Willie O'Ree, a trailblazer for diversity and inclusion in sports and the first Black player in the National Hockey League.

Born in 1935 in the predominantly White town of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, O'Ree made a name for himself as a standout athlete in both ice hockey and baseball. At age 21, he was being scouted by professional baseball teams in the United States. However, upon experiencing racial discrimination and the effects of segregation firsthand while in the south for minor league tryouts, he shifted his focus solely to ice hockey.

In 1958, at the age of 22, O'Ree was called up to play professionally as a winger for the NHL Boston Bruins. In doing so, he became the first Black professional ice hockey player in the league. Despite being blind in one eye from an injury during his time as an amateur hockey player and enduring racist attacks from hockey fans and players alike, O'Ree persevered and continued to play professional hockey for 22 years.

In 1996, the National Hockey League hired O'Ree as its first-ever diversity ambassador, which set out to transform the predominantly White sport of ice hockey by providing greater access and opportunity for children of all races, ethnicities, and origins.

O'Ree has personally devoted thousands of hours to Hockey is for Everyone programs which provide community outreach and support for youth participants to partake in physical fitness and live out hockey's core values of commitment, discipline, and respect for your teammates, coaches, and parents.

In 2018, 60 years after O'Ree first broke the color barrier for ice hockey, he was inducted into the NHL Hockey Hall of Fame in recognition of his long-standing support for greater access and diversity in the sport.

This bill honors O'Ree's trailblazing legacy both on and off the ice. I thank Ms. STABENOW and Mr. QUIGLEY for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge members to vote "yes" and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 452, the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act.

Willie O'Ree's story is one of determination and perseverance, one of the greatest qualities a human being can have.

Willie, born October 15, 1935, was the youngest of 13 children of parents Rosebud and Harry O'Ree. The O'Ree family was one of only two Black families that lived in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Willie is a descendent of Paris O'Ree, a slave who escaped servitude in South Carolina in the late 1700s at only 15 years old.

When he was 3, Willie fashioned skates out of wooden blocks with metal blades attached to the bottom and took to his frozen lawn in the backyard. He had a knack for skating. Two years later at age 5, Willie began to play organized hockey. Many refer to Willie as the "Jackie Robinson of hockey."

Interestingly, at Dodger Stadium in 1949, 2 years after Robinson broke baseball's color barrier, a 14-year-old O'Ree had the opportunity to meet his hero. In one interview, Willie recalls that as Robinson made his way down to the receiving line, Willie waited patiently. When his turn arrived, he spoke to Jackie and said, I am a baseball player. But what I really love is hockey.

Robinson replied, Oh, I didn't know Black kids played hockey.

Nearly 9 years later, on January 18, 1958, Willie put on a Boston Bruins uniform for a game against the Montreal Canadians and became the first Black player in NHL history.

□ 1300

From 1958 to 1961, O'Ree played in 45 games for the Bruins, all while hiding a secret that he was, in fact, blind in one eye.

Willie paved the way for a new generation of hockey players. Wayne Simmonds of the Toronto Maple Leafs was quoted as stating:

Willie set the table for everyone else to eat, and he did it all with dignity and class. I used to think about Willie's story whenever teachers or hockey parents or coaches would laugh at my dream of making it to the NHL.

Willie's story did not end after he left the ice. Seventeen years after he retired from professional hockey, the NHL hired O'Ree as their first-ever diversity ambassador. This role put Willie in a position to grow the sport by providing access, opportunity, and motivation for children of all races, ethnicities, origins, and abilities.

In November of 2018, O'Ree was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, and just last night, 64 years to the day of his historic entrance into the league, his number 22 jersey was raised to the rafters in TD Garden and retired; an act of ultimate recognition of what a player means to a franchise, a fan base, and a community.

Mr. Speaker, Willie O'Ree forever changed the sport of hockey. His determination and perseverance should be recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY).

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago our country took time to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and reflect on our ongoing effort to ensure racial equality in America. It is fitting then that today this body considers legislation to honor the life of Willie O'Ree who, like Dr. King, was on the frontlines of racial integration in America and has dedicated his life to the ideals of diversity and inclusion.

In 1958, Willie O'Ree integrated the sport of hockey by becoming the first Black player in the National Hockey League. Well, known are the stories of barrier-breaking athletes like Jackie Robinson in baseball and Bill Russell in basketball; Mr. O'Ree's story is less-known.

He was born in Canada, the youngest of 13 children. His grandfather, Paris O'Ree, escaped slavery in South Carolina and fled to Canada. Growing up in Canada, O'Ree quickly developed a love and talent for hockey. During his early years playing hockey, he was blinded in one eye by a stray puck. However, this setback did not deter him from his dream of playing professional hockey. A few years later, Willie finally got the call to play in the NHL with the Boston Bruins, becoming the first Black player to do so.

But the road ahead was not an easy one. During his time playing for the Bruins, Willie endured racist slurs by fans and opposing teams. He suffered illegal hits and rough treatment constantly. But that was not enough to deter him. He remained committed to playing hockey and would do so for 22 years in the NHL and the minor leagues. Think about that, Mr. Speaker, he played 22 years of professional hockey while enduring racism and bigotry; oh, and only having vision in one eye.

Willie never intended to stop the fight for inclusion in the league once

he left playing hockey. After hanging up his skates, he became the NHL's diversity ambassador, a role he continues to this day.

In the 1990s, he established the Hockey is for Everyone initiative to offer marginalized and underrepresented children an opportunity to play hockey and develop important life skills. Since its inception, more than 120,000 children have participated in the program.

After his remarkable career on and off the ice, Willie has begun to receive the recognition he has long deserved. In 2018, he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, and just last night, his jersey was retired by the Boston Bruins.

It has been my honor to know Willie over the past decade and help lead this bill to award him a Congressional Gold Medal. I am thankful to my colleagues, Representatives HIGGINS, PRESSLEY, EMMER, and KATKO, who led this legislation in the House with me, and Senators STABENOW and SCOTT who led this bill in the Senate.

When I was young, my heroes were hockey players. They were talented, strong, and skilled. They taught me many things. At the time they were all White. Willie fought his entire life to change that during and after his career. Hockey, the sports world, and our country are better off because of his efforts.

I had no idea that the year I was born Willie O'Ree broke the color barrier in hockey. And it wasn't until many years later when I had the honor of meeting him that I learned that my own heroes from the Chicago Blackhawks and their fans gave him some of the harshest treatment during his time in the NHL.

But his life has been a true testament to those values I learned as a young hockey fan: strength, courage, and perseverance even in the face of tremendous odds. He is a true gift to our country and to a sport that I and so many others love. Awarding him the Congressional Gold Medal will serve as a small but important token of our country's gratitude.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER). This Member of Congress not only played collegiate hockey, he is a hockey dad, and spent over 20 years as a hockey coach, he is one of the best fans of the game of hockey in the United States Congress.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 452, the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act, and to recognize the incredible impact that Willie O'Ree has had on the great sport of hockey.

Willie etched his name into the history books in 1958. When he became one of the select few—and it is a very few—who got called up from the minors to play in the National Hockey League for the Boston Bruins, Willie broke down racial barriers for sure. He would go on

to play more than 24 seasons as a professional hockey player, despite facing countless challenges on and off the ice.

Willie O'Ree remains a trailblazer for many, but his contributions certainly did not end after his retirement from his playing career in 1979. As we have heard, in 1996, he became the NHL's diversity ambassador. In this capacity, he established the Hockey is for Everyone initiative to create a culture of inclusivity and provide an opportunity for disadvantaged children across this country and North America to play the game. His work continues even to this day to reinvigorate and grow the great sport of hockey while setting an example for underrepresented communities here at home and on an international level.

As the NHL and teams across the country finally recognized Willie O'Ree's incredible contributions to hockey, today is Congress' opportunity to honor a true legend of the game that is loved and enjoyed by millions.

Remember, we know that hockey was given to us directly from God because it is played on ice, which can only exist in Heaven.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to co-lead this long overdue effort, and I urge all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor this icon of our God-given sport by voting "yes" on S. 452.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of our bill, the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act, legislation which honors the historic career and life of service of the one and only Willie O'Ree.

With today's vote in the people's House, we honor a giant, and it has been an honor to be a steward in this effort. Willie is a trailblazer, an ice breaker, a hero, and an activist whose powerful story is unknown to too many. That ends here today. We change that.

Mr. Speaker, 64 years ago, in the midst of the fight to end Jim Crow, Willie O'Ree made history with the Boston Bruins by becoming the first Black player to play in the National Hockey League.

A descendant of enslaved people who escaped the horrors of slavery through the Underground Railroad, Willie was born and raised in New Brunswick, Canada, and was the youngest of 13 children. His love of the game began at the young age of 3 when he earned his stripes playing alongside his older siblings.

Known as the Jackie Robinson of hockey, Willie played 45 games in the NHL and spent more than two decades playing professional hockey—all while hiding the fact that he was nearly completely blind in one eye.

Willie O'Ree was a young and fast left winger, but he could not out-skate the racist backlash in response to his desegregating the National Hockey

League. As the sole Black player in the NHL at the time, Willie endured relentless bigotry, racism, discrimination, and even violence from fans and players both on and off the ice. And despite it all, Willie embodied resilience, grace, dignity, and never gave up on the determination to live out his dream.

In the decades following his historic career on the ice, Willie has spent his time paying it forward to the next generation of ice breakers. As the NHL's director of youth development and diversity ambassador, he has worked to increase opportunities for young Black and Brown players so that they too can take their rightful place in the big league.

In 2018, Willie was formally inducted into the NHL Hall of Fame; and while his time with the Boston Bruins was short, his legacy lives on to this very day. Earlier this week, Mayor Michelle Wu declared January 18 in the city of Boston Willie O'Ree Day marking the momentous day 64 years ago when Willie hit the ice and changed the game forever.

Just yesterday, the Boston Bruins formally retired Willie's number 22 jersey, raising it up in the rafters at the Garden alongside other Bruins legends.

Mr. Speaker, Black history is American history, and today we salute an American hero and inspiration. Willie demonstrates for us the power of holding on to one's dreams—an ice and ceiling breaker.

I would like to thank my esteemed colleagues, Representatives Quigley, Katko, and Emmer, for their partnership, and the 290 colleagues who co-sponsored this piece of legislation in order to get it across the finish line. My team and I have been working diligently pushing and organizing since 2019, and this work would not have been possible without the support and partnership of the longtime grassroots activists who organized to ensure that Willie, who took up space and who created space, now takes his rightful space in our history books.

The Congressional Gold Medal is Congress' highest expression of national appreciation and recognition. With this honor, Willie will join history-makers like Jackie Robinson, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Coretta Scott King, and the Tuskegee Airmen—incredible company for an incredible man.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman from Massachusetts an additional 1 minute.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, at the age of 86 years young today, we give Willie O'Ree his flowers.

Go Bruins.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to, once again, reiterate the significance of this Congressional Gold Medal. Willie O'Ree not only forever changed the sport of hockey, but he truly helped change the history of this

country. His determination and perseverance and his trailblazing spirit should be recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 452, the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act.

Willie O'Ree, which has been already said, was a trailblazer for hockey both on and off the ice. He was to the National Hockey League what Jackie Robinson was to Major League Baseball.

As the first Black player in the National Hockey League, he endured racism, bigotry, and prejudice from both players and fans. Despite this, he played more than two decades in the National Hockey League and in the minor leagues developing his skills and later becoming the National Hockey League's diversity ambassador.

Willie O'Ree broke down historic barriers and paved the way for young athletes in marginalized communities. In 2012, he visited my community for the Willie O'Ree Skills Weekend hosted by the National Hockey League Buffalo Sabres. Today we honor his dedication to improving diversity and accessibility in sports which makes him most deserving of this high honor.

He is an inspiration to all athletes, and particularly to young athletes of color in western New York and throughout the Nation. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

□ 1315

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Willie O'Ree is often referred to as the "Jackie Robinson of ice hockey" for helping to end racial segregation in the National Hockey League. Mr. O'Ree's positive impact on the sport of ice hockey goes far beyond his role in ending racial segregation in the sport.

This bill honors O'Ree for both his barrier-breaking role and his decades of championing diversity and greater youth access to the sport. I thank Ms. STABENOW and Mr. QUIGLEY, the lead sponsor of the House version of the bill, and our other colleagues who worked so hard on this bill for ensuring that Mr. O'Ree and his trailblazing legacy of sportsmanship and inclusion receive the recognition he so richly deserves.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 452.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 426, nays 0, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 11]

YEAS—426

Adams	Crist	Herrera Beutler
Aderholt	Crow	Hice (GA)
Aguilar	Cuellar	Higgins (LA)
Allen	Curtis	Higgins (NY)
Allred	Davidson	Hill
Amodei	Davis, Danny K.	Himes
Armstrong	Davis, Rodney	Hinson
Arrington	Dean	Horsford
Auchincloss	DeFazio	Houlihan
Axne	DeGette	Hoyer
Babin	DeLauro	Hudson
Bacon	DelBene	Huffman
Baird	Delgado	Huizenga
Balderson	Demings	Issa
Banks	DeSaulnier	Jackson
Barr	DesJarlais	Jackson Lee
Barragán	Deutch	Jacobs (CA)
Bass	Diaz-Balart	Jacobs (NY)
Beatty	Dingell	Jayapal
Bentz	Doggett	Jeffries
Bera	Donalds	Johnson (GA)
Bergman	Doyle, Michael F.	Johnson (LA)
Beyer	Duncan	Johnson (OH)
Bice (OK)	Bishop (GA)	Johnson (SD)
Bilirakis	Bishop (NC)	Johnson (TX)
Bishop (GA)	Blumenauer	Jones
Bishop (NC)	Blunt Rochester	Jordan
Blumenauer	Boebert	Joyce (OH)
Blunt Rochester	Bonamici	Joyce (PA)
Boebert	Bost	Kahele
Bonamici	Bourdeaux	Kaptur
Bost	Bowman	Katko
Bourdeaux	Boyle, Brendan F.	Keating
Bowman	Brooks	Keller
Boyle, Brendan F.	Brown (MD)	Kelly (IL)
Brooks	Brown (OH)	Kelly (MS)
Brown (MD)	Brownley	Kelly (PA)
Brown (OH)	Buchanan	Khan
Brownley	Buck	Kildee
Buchanan	Bucshon	Kilmer
Buck	Burchett	Kim (CA)
Bucshon	Burgess	Kim (NJ)
Burchett	Burgess	Kind
Burgess	Bustos	Kirkpatrick
Bustos	Butterfield	Krishnamoorthi
Butterfield	Calvert	Kuster
Calvert	Cammack	Kustoff
Cammack	Carbajal	LaHood
Carbajal	Cárdenas	LaMalfa
Cárdenas	Carey	Lamb
Carey	Carl	Lamborn
Carl	Carson	Langevin
Carson	Carter (GA)	Larsen (WA)
Carter (GA)	Carter (LA)	Larson (CT)
Carter (LA)	Carter (TX)	Latta
Carter (TX)	Case	LaTurner
Cartwright	Casten	Lawrence
Case	Castor (FL)	Lawson (FL)
Casten	Castro (TX)	Lee (CA)
Castor (FL)	Cawthorn	Lee (NV)
Castro (TX)	Chabot	Leger Fernandez
Cawthorn	Cheney	Lesko
Chabot	Cherfilus-McCormick	Letlow
Cheney	Chu	Levin (CA)
Cherfilus-McCormick	Cicilline	Levin (MI)
Chu	Clark (MA)	Lieu
Cicilline	Clarke (NY)	Lofgren
Clark (MA)	Cleaver	Long
Clarke (NY)	Cline	Loudermilk
Cleaver	Cloud	Lowenthal
Cline	Clyburn	Lucas
Cloud	Clyde	Luetkemeyer
Clyburn	Cohen	Luria
Clyde	Cohen	Lynch
Cohen	Cole	Mace
Cole	Comer	Malinowski
Comer	Connolly	Malliotakis
Connolly	Cooper	Maloney
Cooper	Correa	Maloney, Sean
Correa	Costa	Mann
Costa	Courtney	Manning
Courtney	Craig	Mast
Craig	Crawford	Matsui
Crawford	Crenshaw	McBath
Crenshaw		McCarthy
		McCaul
		McClain

McCollum	Price (NC)	Steube
McEachin	Quigley	Stevens
McGovern	Raskin	Stewart
McHenry	Reed	Strickland
McKinley	Reschenthaler	Suozi
McNerney	Rice (NY)	Swalwell
Meeks	Rice (SC)	Takano
Meijer	Rodgers (WA)	Taylor
Meng	Rogers (AL)	Tenney
Meuser	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (CA)
Mfume	Rose	Thompson (MS)
Miller (IL)	Rosendale	Thompson (PA)
Miller (WV)	Ross	Tiffany
Miller-Meeks	Rouzer	Timmons
Moolenaar	Roy	Titus
Mooney	Roybal-Allard	Tlaib
Moore (AL)	Ruiz	Tonko
Moore (UT)	Ruppersberger	Torres (CA)
Moore (WI)	Rush	Torres (NY)
Morelle	Rutherford	Trahan
Moulton	Ryan	Trone
Mrvan	Salazar	Turner
Mullin	Sánchez	Underwood
Murphy (FL)	Sarbanes	Upton
Murphy (NC)	Scalise	Valadao
Nadler	Scanlon	Van Drew
Napolitano	Schakowsky	Van Dune
Neal	Schiff	Vargas
Neguse	Schneider	Veasey
Nehls	Schrader	Vela
Newhouse	Schrier	Velázquez
Newman	Schweikert	Wagner
Norcross	Scott (VA)	Walberg
Norman	Scott, Austin	Walorski
O'Halleran	Scott, David	Waltz
Obernolte	Sessions	Wasserman
Ocasio-Cortez	Sewell	Schultz
Omar	Sherman	Waters
Owens	Sherrill	Watson Coleman
Palazzo	Simpson	Weber (TX)
Pallone	Sires	Webster (FL)
Palmer	Slotkin	Welch
Panetta	Smith (MO)	Wenstrup
Pappas	Smith (NE)	Westerman
Pascarell	Smith (NJ)	Wexton
Payne	Smith (WA)	Wild
Pence	Smucker	Williams (GA)
Perlmutter	Soto	Williams (TX)
Perry	Spanberger	Wilson (FL)
Peters	Spartz	Wilson (SC)
Pfuger	Speier	Wittman
Phillips	Stansbury	Womack
Pingree	Stanton	Yarmuth
Pocan	Staubert	Young
Porter	Steel	Zeldin
Posey	Stefanik	
Pressley	Steil	

NOT VOTING—7

□ 1354

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Cicilline)	Doggett (Raskin)	Joyce (PA)
Blumenauer	Donalds	(Smucker)
Boyle, Brendan F.	(Cammack)	Kildee (Panetta)
Brownley	Doyle, Michael F.	Kilmer (Bera)
(Kuster)	(Connolly)	Kirkpatrick
Bush (Bowman)	Evans (Mfume)	(Pallone)
Carter (LA)	Fallon (Gooden)	Lawrence
(Jeffries)	Fletcher (Allred)	(Stevens)
Cawthorn (Nehls)	Fortenberry	Lawson (FL)
Chu (Clark (MA))	(Moolenaar)	(Soto)
Cohen (Beyer)	Frankel, Lois	Lee (CA)
Costa (Correa)	(Clark (MA))	(Khanna)
Crist (Soto)	Gohmert (Weber	Lofgren (Jeffries)
Cuellar (Correa)	(TX))	Lowenthal
DeFazio (Brown	Gonzalez,	(Beyer)
(MD))	Vicente	Maloney,
DeGette (Blunt	(Correa)	Carolyn B.
Rochester)	Grijalva (Garcia	(Wasserman
Demings (Soto)	(IL))	Schultz)
DeSaulnier	Hagedorn (Carl)	Mann (Pfluger)
(Beyer)	Hayes (Clark	McCollum (Blunt
	(MA))	Rochester)
	Jayapal (Raskin)	

McEachin	Reed (Kelly	Stewart
(Wexton)	(PA))	(Crawford)
Meng (Kuster)	Rogers (KY)	Strickland
Moore (UT)	(Reschenthaler)	(Jeffries)
(Meijer)		Timmons
Moore (WI)	Roybal-Allard	(Armstrong)
(Beyer)	(Levin (CA))	Titus (Connolly)
Nadler (Pallone)	Ruiz (Correa)	Trone (Brown
Napolitano	Ruppersberger	(MD))
(Correa)	(Raskin)	Vargas (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez	Rush (Kaptur)	Vela (Correa)
(Garcia (IL))	Schneider	Velázquez (Clark
Payne (Pallone)	(Connolly)	(MA))
Pingree	Schrier	Waters (Takano)
(Cicilline)	(Spanberger)	Watson Coleman
Pocan (Raskin)	Scott, David	(Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)	(Jeffries)	Welch (Raskin)
	Sires (Pallone)	Wilson (FL)
		(Cicilline)

ELECTING A MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 875

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS: Mr. Murphy of North Carolina.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEDICARE PREMIUM INCREASE

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, on November 12, Medicare announced the largest part B premium increase in the history of the Medicare program, 14 percent. This could not come at a worse time in terms of, again, the cost of living that many seniors are facing.

Looking closely at that decision, one of the driving factors was the projected cost of the drug Aduhelm, which was priced at \$56,000 per year for Alzheimer's patients who were, again, very excited about the possibility of getting the benefit of that drug. But the cost of that drug was one of the big driving forces for a 14 percent rate increase.

On December 20, Biogen, the manufacturer, cut the cost of that drug from \$56,000 to \$28,000. About 2 weeks ago, Secretary Becerra correctly instructed the actuaries of Medicare to go back and try and recalculate the Medicare part B premium to see if there was a way to get some relief for seniors from that 14 percent rate increase.

Today, 31 Members of the House Democratic Caucus are sending a letter to Secretary Becerra again applauding his decision and strongly advocating that Medicare go back in and recalculate that rate increase, which will provide tremendous assistance for seniors at exactly the time that they need it.

□ 1400

HONORING LIEUTENANT MARC TOCHTERMAN

(Mr. DUNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Marc Tochterman, who is retiring from the Bay County Sheriff's Office after 23 years.

Marc also served his country for 22 years in the Navy before that.

During his time in the sheriff's office, Lieutenant Tochterman assisted my office, Representative Gwen Graham's office, and Representative Steve Southerland's office, as well.

Marc also serves as the regional coordinator for the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run and as the vice president of the Defenders Motorcycle Club's Panama City Chapter.

Marc has a heart of gold.

Marc is a doting father, a loving husband to his wife, Virginia, and, additionally, a dear friend to me and everyone on my staff.

Though we are sad that Marc is retiring, we are proud of the impact he has made on our community.

Madam Speaker, we thank Lieutenant Tochterman and we are all grateful for his service.

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the Jewish community, with Jewish parents, with our rabbis, people who are still reeling in the aftermath of yet another attack on one of their houses of worship.

Anti-Semitism is real and growing, and it is a threat to our neighbors and to our collective conscience in this country. Paired with near-unfettered access to firearms, spaces for online hate to fester, and the echo of xenophobic dog whistles from our Nation's highest offices, it has and can cost us American lives.

We have failed when our educators and faith leaders need to supplement their daily duties with violence intervention rehearsals. We have failed when our students and congregants need to calculate exit plans upon entering classrooms and sanctuaries. And we have failed when we fear the next attack that impedes our neighbor's ability to practice their faith.

To the Jewish community of Michigan's 11th District and beyond: I see you, I am here for you, and I will continue to do my part to uproot intolerance and hate wherever it grows.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT JASON MOLONEY

(Ms. VAN DUYNE asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Jason Moloney and the Southlake Fire Department for their selfless acts of service to protect our State during the recent wildland fire deployments.

Over the holiday season, Southlake Fire Department personnel took part in two different deployments as part of the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System to assist with wildland fires in the Texas panhandle. The fire covered nearly 24,000 acres and stretched 23 miles long.

Southlake Fire Department Lieutenant Jason Moloney fearlessly served as the Strike Team Leader of a specially trained team, which included five wildland brush trucks and a command vehicle.

During the second deployment, the strike team was deployed on January 4 and was safely demobilized on January 9. While Lieutenant Moloney was on the front line, his wife, Velvet, worked tirelessly treating COVID-19 patients as a respiratory therapist and taking care of their two young children. Both Jason and Velvet served to protect our State and sacrifice time at home during the holidays as a family.

Madam Speaker, I thank Lieutenant Moloney and the entire Southlake Fire Department for their dedication, bravery, and providing world class service to our community.

A PHENOMENAL INTERGENERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank President Joe Biden and the majority here with some of our Republican friends who passed the bipartisan infrastructure legislation not long ago.

The Biden administration just announced this morning three-quarters of a billion dollars of investment in the Great Lakes region—an awesome amount—to take care of projects that had been sitting on the shelf for over a quarter century, for the modernization of the Soo Locks. We could not conduct war without those locks being operational. And they have sat around with no investment.

God bless Joe Biden for his patriotism to this country, and also for what is going to happen at Brandon Road Lock, south of Chicago, with the barrier that will be built so the Asian carp don't get into the entire Great Lakes and eat up all of our native species.

Three-quarters of a billion dollars in the Great Lakes today; what a phenomenal intergenerational announcement.

Madam Speaker, I thank all the Members who supported that important legislation, and I thank Joe Biden, the President of the United States.

HONORING HARRY SILVER

(Ms. LETLOW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilman Harry Silver, a truly distinguished public servant, as he marks his 100th birthday.

Harry Silver served the people of Alexandria, Louisiana, on the city council for more than 15 years before stepping down 11 months ago at age 99. At an age where most people are slowing down and taking it a bit easy, Harry stepped up to serve, wanting to give back to the community that he called home.

After Harry's initial appointment in 2005, the people of Alexandria reelected Harry to the council four times.

At the time of his retirement, Harry was both the oldest active elected official in the United States and the oldest elected official in Louisiana history.

In his farewell message to the city, Harry said: "Whether you or your parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents agreed with me or not over the years, I hope everyone agrees that I acted only as I felt was best for our mutual home."

Madam Speaker, that is all that we can ask of a public servant.

We are honored and proud to salute Harry Silver of Alexandria, Louisiana, on his 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. MOOLENAAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Madam Speaker, over this past weekend, the Democratic Party in my home State published a graphic saying public schools do not exist to serve the parents of those students and, rightfully, there was an outcry before they took it down and disavowed what they posted.

Parents absolutely have the right to know what their kids are learning, and over the past year and a half they have been fighting back against administrators and unions who have kept students out of the classroom.

When public school teachers in Chicago went on strike earlier this month, the phones rang off the hook at the city's private schools as parents finally had enough and searched for classroom opportunities for their kids.

Support for parental involvement in education and for school choice has risen over the past year, and my colleagues and I will soon be introducing a resolution to honor National School Choice Week that will be next week, from January 23 through January 29.

Parents and students should be given every opportunity to find a classroom where the kids can attend in person, see their friends, and learn directly from a teacher.

HIGHLIGHTING ISSUES WITH THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, we may be starting a new year, but so far the problems remain the same. This week marks the 1-year anniversary of Joe Biden being sworn in as President of the United States, and, of course, also the 1-year anniversary of one-party, far-left Democrat rule in Washington.

This past year was one of unprecedented crises as a direct result. The American people face an economic crisis, an energy crisis, a border crisis, an education crisis, a crime crisis, a COVID-19 crisis, and a national security crisis as a direct result of Joe Biden and congressional Democrats' failed leadership and their far-left socialist agenda.

In this hour, a cross-section of my Republican colleagues will address and highlight these issues as we stand for the opposite policies, and we are very anxious to be returned to the majority so that we can solve these ongoing dilemmas.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, my good friend right across the Sabine River, for yielding.

No President has ever had a worse first year in office than Joe Biden.

And sadly, his deteriorating 42 percent approval rating perfectly mirrors the deteriorating state of our country.

We are facing crises on nearly every front, and our Commander in Chief who, by the way, is responsible for creating each and every one of these crises, is doing absolutely nothing to stop them.

However, the most threatening of these concerns is still the unmitigated disaster that is raging on our southern border.

More than 1.7 million illegal alien apprehensions happened under Biden's watch last year, and those were just the ones that we caught.

Instead of securing our borders, this administration spent all of 2021 sweeping the rule of law under the rug and using the cover of darkness to fly thousands of unvetted and untested for COVID illegal aliens across the country to be released into our neighborhoods.

How many more innocent women and children need to be assaulted, raped, and trafficked?

How many more Americans need to overdose on Chinese fentanyl that is being smuggled across the border?

How many more terrorists need to be caught trying to infiltrate our Nation?

What level of threat do we need to reach to finally garner some action from this President?

Americans are tired of paying for this administration's ignorance and political games.

This is a new year, Mr. President. Use it wisely.

It is past time that you live up to the oath that you swore.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, there are so many crises it is hard for us to keep count.

I yield to my dear friend from the State of Indiana (Mrs. WALORSKI).

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

This week, our Nation is marking a solemn anniversary, 49 years since the deadly Roe v. Wade decision.

For nearly half a century, pro-life Americans have been standing strong to defend precious human life and the most vulnerable among us.

Right now we are facing some tough challenges. Under the current one-party rule in Washington, Americans are witnessing unprecedented attacks on pro-life protections across the country.

Time and time again, I have come to this floor to oppose Democrats' radical antilife agenda.

As many times as it takes, I will stand here to reject the attacks on life, and I will vote "no" on taxpayer-funded services, including the wicked proposal to permit abortion on demand at any time bankrolled by the American people.

These are dark days in this country.

At the same time we have so much to be happy and hopeful for as we look at this new year.

The Supreme Court, including my fellow Hoosier, Justice Amy Coney Barrett, is currently considering the most significant challenge to Roe v. Wade since 1973.

This could be the final anniversary that we mark under Roe v. Wade.

For five decades, we have been in a long battle against abortion, and this is the time to restore the dignity of life and protect life once and for all.

As a pro-life lawmaker, I am proud to stand alongside millions of Americans in Indiana and across the country who believe in the inherent value of life.

Our enduring commitment to life and the truth will prevail.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman is right, the sanctity of human life is one of the central principles that this country is founded upon, and it does get darkest before the dawn. There is hope on the horizon.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW).

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and thank him for his leadership.

The President's most important job is to lead, to lead and protect our country. Yet time and again, all we have seen from President Biden is a failure to lead.

Biden's handling of Afghanistan led to the death of 13 American service-members and left hundreds more abandoned. This was a failure to lead.

Biden's handling of the border has been a disaster with more than two million illegal immigrants being apprehended at our border. This was a failure to lead.

□ 1415

Biden failed to shut down COVID-19 and has allowed more Americans to die from this disease, despite widespread access to vaccines. This was a failure to lead.

Inflation is at a 40-year high; supply chains are crippled; and labor shortages have hindered an economic recovery. This has been a failure to lead.

Soft-on-crime policy has resulted in 16 of America's largest cities suffering from new highs in homicide rates and a 115 percent increase in attacks against our law enforcement officials, all while President Biden and House Democrats demand to defund our police. This has been a failure to lead.

This is not the America I know. The America I know is strong, and it deserves a strong leader, not the worst President in our history, not one that continues time and again to fail to lead.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Those are not just Republican talking points. Politico had a story this morning. They asked Americans in a nationwide poll to give the President a letter grade, and 37 percent of Americans gave him an F—85 percent or more of Republicans, but also, they say, an alarming number of Democrats gave a D or an F grade.

So the gentleman is exactly right. It is a failure. An F-minus, says Mr. VAN DREW.

Madam Speaker, I yield to my good friend from the State of Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman. It is the great State of Tennessee.

Madam Speaker, for the last year, Joe Biden and the Democrats have completely controlled our government in Washington. Their first order of business when they took power was to ram through Congress almost \$2 trillion in Federal spending under the so-called American Rescue Plan.

When this bill became law last March, Democrats said it was necessary to fight the coronavirus. Ten months later, our country is still dealing with the same problems Democrats claimed their bill would solve.

COVID tests are sold out at drugstores, and testing centers have

hourlong lines. Not even KAMALA HARRIS can give a straight answer about when Americans will receive at-home test kits. Is it this week? Is it next week? Is it sometime in the future? I don't think she knows.

We have overwhelmed hospitals that are struggling to treat patients due to staffing shortages. Corrupt teachers' unions are forcing students out of the classroom and bullying parents. Businesses of all sizes and across industries cannot find enough workers to keep up with the demand.

Madam Speaker, the American Rescue Plan failed miserably to address or prevent these issues. That is because it mostly focused on funding liberal special interests instead of targeted pandemic relief.

This whole debacle confirmed two things: Congress cannot spend its way out of a problem, and Democrats will always use a crisis to advance their political agenda.

Joe Biden promised to shut down the coronavirus when he took office. One year later, all he shut down were America's hospitals and businesses.

Thank you, Vice Chairman JOHNSON, for your adequate and more-than-lack-luster leadership skills.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for keeping me humble.

Madam Speaker, we have just come straight to the floor from a Members and media roundtable on the border and crime crises, and he led that so ably. I am delighted to hear what he has to say in his 2 minutes.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is hard to pick the crisis to talk about because there are so many. I would like to talk about unity.

I was at the inauguration last year. I heard the President's speech. I heard him campaign. His message was centered on restoring unity to an angry Nation. He promised to bring us together.

Well, he has brought the American people together, that is for sure, because everyone now understands the full magnitude of the crises that we are going through. He has united the country in that fact alone.

One year ago, I want everyone to remember, we were not experiencing the inflation that we are, the highest rate in 40 years. We did not have foreign adversaries who were treading over our policies and looking at us as weak.

Right now, we have a border that is in complete chaos and complete crisis. It has only been 1 year under President Biden's reign, and our Nation is directionless from the masthead in the midst of chaos, not to mention that our international reputation and our influence have been squandered through policy failure after policy failure.

When you look at this poster right here, look at the energy crisis that we are dealing with, and Ukraine right now is in the midst of not knowing whether or not they are going to be invaded by the Russians. What a terrible position to be in.

The President has green-lighted Nord Stream. He failed to sanction the Nord Stream pipeline. The energy crisis that is going on in Eastern Europe right now, the fact that we are not strong around the world in our messaging to deter our enemies and to help our allies, is directly leading to this issue that we see in Ukraine right now. And do you know who is watching? China. China is watching this, and they are wondering whether or not Taiwan is going to be next.

We have to get back to a strong, firm understanding of law and order, the same discussion that we just had on the border crisis. We have to reassert our leadership to make sure that our country, the greatest Nation that this world has ever known, will choose to follow law and order.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for that keen insight that he gained faithfully serving our country in the military. I thank him for his service.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), another gentleman who has served us so well on the front lines of law enforcement before he got to Congress.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I could speak for hours about this administration's multiple failures over the last year, but I only have a couple of minutes, so I will cover just inflation, one of them.

Since Joe Biden took office, inflation has risen every single month. Americans are paying more for just about everything while earning less in every paycheck.

This is not sustainable, and it didn't have to be this way. This administration is so out of touch with the average American that despite inflation reaching a 40-year high, they are still pushing for more reckless spending that will only make this crisis worse.

American families are paying substantially more for everyday products, from gasoline to groceries and to energy for heating their homes this winter, to heat their homes in northern Minnesota when it is 30-below for a week straight.

Make no mistake, inflation is a tax on us all, especially our working class and those on fixed incomes. It is no secret that we live in a very polarized nation right now, but there is one thing a strong majority of Americans agree on: Joe Biden's first year in office has been disastrous to the American people. We deserve better.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS).

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Louisiana for his great leadership.

Madam Speaker, over the past year, I spent time throughout Utah's Fourth District. I have heard from Utahns from all walks of life, and month after month, they have shared the same concerns: soaring inflation, skyrocketing prices, and decreasing wages.

That is no surprise because gas is up 49.6 percent. Used cars are up 37.3 percent. Gas utilities are up 24.1 percent. Meat, fish, and eggs are up 12.5 percent. Electricity is up 6.3 percent.

On top of this, as real wages have decreased 8 out of the last 11 months, our economy is still missing millions of prepandemic jobs, and employers are continuing to struggle with persistent labor shortages.

What is this administration doing to help? You can't make this up: dismissing inflation as high-class problems and transitory; adding to the national debt with money we don't have on programs we don't need; and, just last week, advocating to nuke a filibuster the President defended for decades to push through a radical Federal takeover of all elections.

Our economy should be thriving right now, but inaction, on purpose, by this administration has massively increased our national debt, which still sits at \$29 trillion, by the way; stifled growth; and financially crippled American families and small businesses.

We are closing out the first year of Biden's Presidency with the worst inflation of 40 years; open borders; emboldened adversaries; a botched withdrawal from Afghanistan; and a repeated push to increase the size, scope, and reach of the Federal Government.

This year, I encourage President Biden to start paying attention to the real needs of real Americans. Maybe then we will start seeing real results.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend. So well said, as always. I think one of the key words you said was purposeful. These crises are not happenstance. These are direct results of policy choices.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN), my good friend.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, so many areas to pick from in which we talk about the first year of this administration.

No country can exist if you don't have immigration laws, and I can't think of anywhere where the new administration is more of a change from the old.

We have gone through a situation in which about 25,000 people every year crossed our southern border, and now routinely over 75,000, tripling the amount of people who have come across our border.

That has received a lot of attention, but not enough attention has been received for the lack of people being pushed back across the border if they are caught here breaking crimes or otherwise.

In the first 6 months of 2020, about 93,000 people were kicked out. This

time around, it is about 18,000. So we have about another 70,000 people who we don't want in this country, primarily because they have broken the law. Under the Biden administration, we don't kick them out.

We have to also look at the carrot that they are giving people to come here in the Build Back Better bill, trying to give free college education to people who come here illegally. Every Democrat but one in this body voted for it, saying: Yes, absolutely. We not only want people to come here illegally, but we will give them free college education, free medical care.

Unbelievable.

Showing that the number one priority is to get people here illegally, they are not even giving tests for COVID, which says something or other. I mean, on the one hand, it is important that everybody even get a shot if they are hanging around Washington, D.C., but if you are coming across the southern border, we don't care. Unbelievable.

Quite a change in America compared to what it used to be, and it is going to take a lot of work when we get a new President to undo the huge amount of damage that has been done to the fabric of this country in the first 12 months of Joe Biden.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend. It is so well said. It is as if they are incentivizing lawlessness. That is exactly what we are seeing, and everybody knows it.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), my friend.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. JOHNSON. I appreciate this Special Order.

Of course, this week does mark the first year of the Biden administration. Unfortunately, it was one of unprecedented crisis. Indeed, it is a target-rich environment for us to talk about here tonight.

Democrats have controlled the executive branch and both Chambers of Congress, allowing them to pass, so far, \$2 trillion out of their \$9 trillion plans. This act has also caused the highest inflation in decades, hitting the middle-class and lower income class hardest in this country.

This year, under Democrat leadership, Americans are paying more for just about everything, from housing, clothes, food, and gas—especially in energy. On the way to the airport in California, it was \$5-plus, \$5.39 at one place. Incredible.

In the dead of winter, people are seeing the cost of heating their homes skyrocket. When you stop all sorts of development of energy in this country, you are not going to have the supply. That sends a signal to the whole market to raise prices, including the Biden administration telling OPEC overseas to go ahead and send us more while cutting off our own pipelines and further development on Federal lands.

This, of course, ripples through everything else in costs.

In my real life as a farmer, we are going to see our costs of energy—whether it is diesel fuel, gasoline, fertilizer—skyrocket. That is either going to have to be passed along to the consumer at the store or farmers go broke in this country. Small business owners face the same thing.

Everything is going up—more in costs, vaccine mandates, less employees. I mean, I wish we could paint a brighter picture and not have it appear to be a partisan one. It really isn't partisan. It is about having success as a country.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration doesn't seem to have a clue what that success would look like. Indeed, they are chasing their own mandates, putting us in a terrible position as a people and for the economy going forward. They need to change their thinking, or the voters need to change them out.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend. It is not partisanship. We are sharing the facts. He is exactly right.

I would encourage my colleagues—there are so many who want to speak, and it is a target-rich environment with so many crises. We are going to try to stick to 2 minutes on these yields.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, tomorrow will mark 1 year since President Biden's inauguration, and Americans are left asking: Are we better off under this administration?

Judging by his all-time low approval ratings, the answer for Americans is a resounding no. Everywhere you look, there is a crisis riddled with incompetence, division, and dysfunction.

At our southern border, Biden has allowed nearly 2 million illegal immigrants to enter our Nation, creating the worst border crisis in 30 years.

In the classroom, Biden has targeted parents and their role in education. His administration even lobbied for them to be called domestic terrorists.

□ 1430

Madam Speaker, in our communities violent crime is at all-time highs. Last year, the murder rate was higher than at any point since 1996.

On the economy, Biden's mishandling of our Federal Government has created the highest inflation rate in 40 years. Bare shelves, high gas prices, and supply chain issues continue to dog this administration.

On the world stage, Biden botched our withdrawal from Afghanistan, surrendering to the Taliban and making America a laughingstock to our adversaries. All of this resulted in the deaths of 13 servicemembers, including one from my home State of Missouri.

Instead of addressing these issues, President Biden had doubled down on his far-left socialist policies, out-of-control spending, and incompetence. It is past time for a change. America deserves better. They need leadership that listens and fights for hardworking families, not against them.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to help lead the fight alongside my fellow Republicans to reverse course by unleashing our economy, securing our border, respecting parents, defending life and our foundational values, and providing for the common defense.

On this one-year anniversary commemorating the misery of the Biden administration, we commit ourselves to never stop fighting for what is right, to work harder than ever, and to never give up. America is depending on us.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE), home of the new national championship football team.

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, tomorrow marks the one-year anniversary of President Biden's inauguration. Many Americans have now endured 365 days of an absent administration, 52 weeks of policy failures, 12 months of utter turmoil, and a year of constant, crippling crises.

Earlier today a Rasmussen Poll revealed that 60 percent of the country considers the President's first year in office unsuccessful. Fifty percent said it was very unsuccessful, with one third of Democrats believing Biden's first year was a failure. All of this has contributed to his abysmal 33 percent rating, the lowest since Jimmy Carter.

Madam Speaker, in all sincerity, I didn't imagine this much damage could be done in just one year, but here we are, facing an economic crisis with hyperinflation, a supply chain crisis, a labor shortage crisis, a border crisis, a national security crisis, an energy crisis with incredible gas prices, an education crisis, a COVID crisis, a crime crisis, and an election integrity crisis with Democrats trying to push through election reforms that would federalize our election and eliminate voter ID. Ultimately, these all stem from a leadership crisis in the White House, a leadership crisis that has caused Americans unnecessary hardship.

Madam Speaker, as we enter the second year of the Biden administration's rule, the President has an important decision to make. Will he continue to sidestep from the crises he has created, destined to inflict more destruction? Or will he confront these crises head-on and implement successful solutions?

Mr. President, the American people demand successful solutions. They deserve successful solutions.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, President Biden ran his campaign on a message of unity. Since day one of his administration, he has been defined by the divisive policies that are the wrong

approach for Tennessee families and workers.

In 2021, we saw cartels take control of our southern border. We saw the worst inflation in decades. We saw Afghanistan fall into the hands of terrorists as we hastily and incompetently withdrew our forces from the country, leaving billions of dollars of modern military equipment and hundreds of Americans and Afghan allies behind. Finally, we saw abusive government overreach in the form of vaccine mandates taken to new heights.

With President Biden in the White House and Democrats in control of Congress, Americans know 2022 will be no better. According to a recent Momentive Poll, more than half of Americans are more fearful than hopeful about what 2022 has in store for them and with good reason.

Just take a glimpse at the state of our economy. The Consumer Price Index rose 7 percent in December, the highest rate seen since 1982. This comes on the heels of President Biden's reckless spending agenda and senseless policies that have created a labor shortage; led to a decline in real, personal income; raised costs of consumer goods, gas, and home heating costs; and contributed to the supply chain disruptions that are causing drastic shortages and bare shelves across America.

Madam Speaker, this is President Joe Biden's version of America. It is costing Tennesseans more each day. President Biden can try to talk around it. He often refuses to talk about it at all. The reality remains the same. His administration's policies have been devastating to this Nation. More than ever, Americans want America-first leadership.

Madam Speaker, as we begin the first days of 2022, I remain steadfast in my commitment to focus on the needs of the good folks of Tennessee who I represent, not the whims of the permanent class of political elites in Washington D.C.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), another seasoned, very effective legislator.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, this has been a year of crisis under the leadership of President Joe Biden. At the southern border, our country was noticeably lacking leadership and solutions from the White House. Instead, President Biden took regressive actions. He halted construction on the border wall, brought back catch and release, and got rid of the remain in Mexico policy.

Because of these decisions, over 1.7 million illegal immigrants have been encountered at the southern border since President Biden took office. The number of illegal crossings at the border has risen at a rate faster under President Biden than at any other time in recent history. U.S. Customs and Border Protection reported that fentanyl seizures increased 134 percent in fiscal year 2021.

I saw this crisis firsthand when I visited the southern border with my colleagues, and I have led and supported legislative solutions in Congress to combat this crisis. It is disheartening and unacceptable that President Biden has neither visited the border to witness the crisis, nor has he proposed solutions to control the unmanageable levels of border crossings and fentanyl trafficking. To say President Biden has under-delivered to the American people is beyond an understatement.

Madam Speaker, I say it again. This year has been a year of crisis under the leadership of President Biden.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ), who we refer to as "The Chief."

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, life has been hard for the American people as President Biden concludes his first year in office. Unfortunately, too many in this Chamber have bowed down to the most radical fringes of the Democratic Party.

The sad reality today is liberals in Congress have no clue what every day, hardworking Americans are going through. They care more about pushing their radical agenda than helping working families. The result is more inflation, higher gas prices, unconstitutional vaccine mandates, broken supply chains, and Americans struggling to make ends meet.

On our side of the aisle, Republicans are committed to making sure we get the American people back to work, ensuring that small businesses can find employees to help keep their businesses open, making sure Americans have uninterrupted access to goods, and getting our country roaring back with a strong economy and safe communities. Those are the issues that Americans really care about.

Here in Washington, Republicans will use our congressional authority to hold the Biden administration accountable for the Afghanistan debacle where we don't know how many Americans are still left behind in Afghanistan, for choosing to wreck our energy sector, handing Putin the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, and for allowing the southern borders to be kept wide open. Where once we were energy independent a year ago, now we are begging OPEC to please produce more.

Madam Speaker, after only a year of the Biden administration and his radical governing of our country, we have had enough. The American people have had enough. Our people, our country deserve better.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE).

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, several days ago the Department of Labor released statistics on job creation and inflation in the United States. This data should be deeply alarming to every American.

This country, over the last year, has dumped trillions of dollars of excess

Federal spending into our economy. At the time economists warned us that doing so was dangerously inflationary. Unfortunately, those fears have come to fruition.

The statistics for the month of December show inflation at nearly 7 percent on an annualized basis. That is the highest rate of inflation in nearly 40 years. When inflation is caused through government action, as this round of inflation clearly is, it represents an unseen tax that is paid by every American because it raises the prices of everything that we buy.

Equally alarming is the fact that real wage growth has not kept up with inflation. In fact, the Department of Labor says that for all of last year real wage growth was negative nearly 2½ percent. If we don't correct this trend, it is going to result in an entire generation of Americans being driven toward poverty because their wages are not keeping up with the prices that they pay for the goods that they need to survive.

Madam Speaker, we need to get our fiscal house in order and correct this runaway Federal spending before our children suffer the consequences.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mrs. STEEL).

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, this administration's failed policies have led to record inflation and empty store shelves across the country. Inflation just reached the highest level in 40 years. At the same time basic goods are harder and harder to find at the stores thanks to the supply chain mess.

Every day we see a new story about things getting more expensive, life getting harder for Americans. Hardworking families are sick and tired of paying more and getting less.

Madam Speaker, I have produced three bills that would help fix the supply chain crisis and ensure goods make it to the stores and consumers. These issues are urgent, but there has been no movement on these bills. Meanwhile, Democrats in Washington continue to spend more as paychecks get smaller and costs continue to rise.

Madam Speaker, I will continue to fight against these bad policies and push for solutions.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, as America marks a year since President Biden's inauguration, Republicans are focused on delivering solutions to the multitude of crises his administration has created.

After a year of one-party rule, the reality is American families are seeing empty shelves at the grocery store. Businesses cannot find workers. Inflation just hit the highest rate in 40 years. Meanwhile, the catastrophe at our southern border continues to worsen. In the past 12 months, more than

1.7 million people have been caught trying to enter the United States illegally.

Madam Speaker, the Biden administration can ignore these inconvenient truths all they want. Do you know who is noticing? The American people are noticing. These are the same people who are working every day, the people driving our economy forward in spite of President Biden stacking the odds against them.

Madam Speaker, be assured when Republicans regain the majority in the House, we will continue tackling these challenges by getting government out of the way, restoring our God-given freedoms, and ensuring Americans keep more of their hard-earned money.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), one of the true border states that sees all of these crises firsthand.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, well, it has been one year since President Biden and the Democrats have had complete control of running our country.

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They have the House, the Senate, and the Presidency.

And what have they accomplished in this 1 year?

Inflation has gone through the roof—a 40-year high. Gas prices are up. Grocery prices are up. The utilities costs have gone up. The border is wide-open with sex trafficking, human trafficking, and fentanyl flooding across our border.

COVID deaths are higher than they have ever been before.

Madam Speaker, do you know those long lines that you see of Americans waiting in line for COVID tests?

Well, guess what, Madam Speaker?

The Biden administration diverted over \$2 billion that was meant for those testing of COVID and for medical supplies and diverted it to house illegal immigrants.

Don't be surprised or mistaken, but it is the Democrat policies that have caused these problems.

And what are the Democrats doing now while the country is going down the tubes?

They are pushing election laws, election laws where they want to rig elections to their favor and fund their own elections. This is insanity.

I hope my Democratic colleagues will work together with us to solve the problems that are facing Americans today.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for her so well-said remarks.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas, (Mr. MANN).

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana for hosting this today. There are a lot of things to talk about for a year. We could talk about immigration. We could talk about inflation. We could

talk about crime. And we could talk about Afghanistan. The list goes on and on.

But I want to talk for a little bit today about trade and specifically our relationship with China.

I rise today to call the Biden administration to action regarding our trade partnership, or lack thereof, with China.

China has proven to be a bad faith negotiator, and they are using the United States as a doormat. Our country made a deal with China 2 years ago on January 15, 2020, and China has failed to live up to their end of the bargain by a long shot. As part of this deal, China committed to importing \$36 billion of U.S. agriculture products in 2020 and 2021 combined, but they have fallen short by nearly \$7 billion. China sold American farmers a bill of goods, and the Biden administration has made no effort to rectify this egregious situation.

Now that phase one is expiring, farmers and ranchers are frustrated to say the least. USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack, in a feeble effort to reassure us, said:

Ambassador Tai, our U.S. Trade Representative, continues to converse with China about the necessity of living up totally and completely to the phase one trade agreement, making up their deficit over the course of the next several years.

This is completely unacceptable. The next several years was never part of this deal, which is not a complex one. China said that they would purchase a certain amount of agricultural goods, and they have fallen short by a margin that suggests that they never intended to live up to their end of the deal in the first place.

Again, we have not seen any effort from this administration on behalf of farmers, which is why I am standing here today to state the obvious—the United States must either force China to comply with their end of the agreement or punish them for failing to do so. That is how deals work. At the very least, we need to see this administration developing a new, comprehensive, realistic deal to collect the deficit. The time for conversations already took place long before the deal was signed January 15, 2020, when China signed the deal.

This administration at year end needs to step up and defend our farmers, our ranchers, and our country from being financially manipulated by China—yet another unnecessary crisis.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that plain talk from Kansas.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), who is one of the brightest and most respected Members of Congress.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, if the Biden administration were a new TV show streaming on Netflix or HBO, it clearly would have been canceled after the end of the first season.

On this anniversary of Mr. Biden's failed first year, I call attention to the

crisis at the Southwest border, a crisis which President Biden and the Democrats have continuously chosen to turn a blind eye to. In just 1 year, over 1.7 million illegal immigrants have been apprehended at the border—an all-time high.

President Trump spent 4 years fighting to secure our border by enacting policies to keep Americans—especially in our communities along the border—safe. After less than a month in office, President Biden revoked the Trump-era border policies and replaced them, Madam Speaker, with what?

Absolutely nothing.

In April, 3 months after Joe Biden took office and 2 months after these policies were rescinded, I made my seventh trip to the Southwest border. During that visit, I witnessed the most unstable conditions that I have seen since coming to Congress. I immediately called on President Biden then to reinstate the Trump-era policies that were working along our border.

Finally, just a few weeks ago in December, it was announced that President Biden planned to re-implement President Trump's Remain in Mexico policy. But, Madam Speaker, we need action, not talk. President Biden should visit the border and talk to the communities there. President Biden should fire his Homeland Security Secretary who is not getting the job done.

So in this first failed year, President Biden has neglected our Southwest border. That neglect is evident with deteriorating conditions, apprehensions at an all-time high, and record amounts of illegal drugs pouring across our open border and poisoning our families.

Americans deserve better. Americans deserve a secure border, and Americans deserve leadership.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Americans do deserve so much better.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. JOHNSON for yielding.

Madam Speaker, 1 year ago, I joined several of my colleagues—especially the freshman Republican colleagues—in a letter to President Biden showing our willingness to work with him on behalf of the American people and to bridge the partisan gridlock, because our President's success is our Nation's success.

While I am proud that 1 year later I have been able to get 12 bipartisan bills out of the House and four signed into law, I am disappointed that the policies from the Biden administration encourage more division, more Federal spending, and more crises hurting American workers, families, and small businesses as we continue through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inflation is at a 40-year high, driving up prices everywhere from the grocery store to prices at the gas pump. We have record high numbers of migrants and illicit drugs at our southern border

straining our resources and empowering drug cartels. Our disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan resulted in the deaths of 13 U.S. servicemembers, and we still have left the lives of Americans and our allies and military arsenal in the hands of the Taliban.

In the latest edition of partisan politics last week, one of my bipartisan bills was taken over and instead became over 700 pages of nationalizing elections and letting public funds be used for political campaigns.

I will keep working through this gridlock, sticking to my conservative policies and principles and fighting back against Big Government and big spending policies.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. I thank the gentlewoman for her principled leadership. It has been effective, and we are grateful she is here.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the State of Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, January 20, 2022, is a day that will live in infamy and marks 1 year since Joe Biden was sworn in as President.

I remember saying: This is the most important election of our lifetime.

Unfortunately, I was right.

In 1 year—under one-party rule and in just 1 year—it has been one huge, continuing debacle and crisis.

We went from energy independence to energy crisis, Madam Speaker; from a rebounding economy to the highest inflation in 40 years; from international peace through strength to increased tensions with our greatest adversaries; and might I add, losing the confidence of our allies.

We went, Madam Speaker, from border security to 2 million illegal alien crossings; from the end of the pandemic to the never-ending pandemic, particularly with unconstitutional mandates.

What is the cause?

One Democrat disaster after another, and Americans are losing faith not only with the performance of the current administration, but also with our governmental agencies: the FBI, the DOJ, and the CDC. You name it. The list is endless.

Democrats are showing who they are: Socialists, police defunders, open border advocates, and anti-parents who just want a say in their child's schooling. Is that too much to ask?

That is what Democrats are. This is their brand, and that Democrat brand, I might add, is a disaster. We Republicans need to point it out every day in every way.

So to my Republican colleagues I say, let's go brand 'em.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Brand 'em. I like it.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), who is another very effective legislator.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank the Congressman for hosting this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, Americans have experienced whiplash this past year as the Biden administration has spun us from the America first agenda to America last.

We watched in horror as the Taliban released thousands of al-Qaida, ISIS, and Taliban prisoners from the prison at Bagram Air Base. Our servicemembers bravely sacrificed to capture those terrorists, and the Biden administration allowed them to be released. One of the ISIS-K prisoners led the bombing that killed our 13 servicemembers.

Biden's failure in Afghanistan led to the surrender of tens of billions of dollars in U.S. military equipment to the Taliban. Military equipment paid for by U.S. taxpayers will now be used against America because of President Biden. As Afghanistan fell, President Biden disappeared, first to Camp David and then to Delaware.

His Cabinet refused to brief the American people directly and instead sent spokesmen. Additionally, the Defense Secretary refused to testify before Congress.

The Biden administration then flew an estimated 78,000 Afghan nationals to American soil and then lied to the American people about the vetting process they were using to ensure that no ISIS, al-Qaida, or Taliban terrorists were brought to our shores.

To this day, no one in the Biden administration has been held responsible for the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan or for the lies that were told to the American people, and no one has been fired or resigned.

Madam Speaker, who will be fired?

Who is resigning?

The American people deserve accountability. China, our enemy, has watched all of this unfold; and, sadly, our children and grandchildren will pay the price of Biden's incompetence.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman's remarks are well-said.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Georgia (Mr. CARTER). Georgia is the home of the new national championship football team.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for hosting this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, Joe Biden's first year in office has exceeded all expectations. In 365 short days, Joe Biden has managed to inflict an entire term of pain and hardship on the American people. Grocery store shelves are empty. Prices are up 7 percent nationwide. Gas costs \$1 more per gallon today than it did when Biden took office. Americans lost the equivalent of two paychecks last year, and Biden has failed to add one single job from our 2019 high.

Madam Speaker, only one thing has gone down in price during this administration, and that is the price of fentanyl. That is the price of fentanyl because of the fentanyl that is coming across the southern border.

Washington Democrats were counting on Joe Biden to socialize our economy, and, boy, did he deliver. His administration caved to teachers unions, putting the wants of liberal elites ahead of the needs of our children who are desperate for high quality, in-person learning.

Domestic terrorists—that is how this administration labeled parents who want better for their children than virtual learning. It is despicable.

He caved to Russia, gutting the Keystone XL pipeline on his first day in office but allowing the Nord Stream 2 pipeline to push ahead virtually unchecked.

He caved to Fauci, who kept his job despite lying to Congress about gain-of-function research.

Do you know who isn't caving, Madam Speaker?

Senator MANCHIN, the Supreme Court, and Republicans across the Nation who are fed up with this administration's singular focus on stripping rights and opportunities away from Americans. This administration has more than earned its 33 percent approval rating, and I hope, for the sake of our country, that the next 3 years are nothing like the one we have just endured.

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Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ), one of the smartest and hardest working Members of Congress.

Mrs. SPARTZ. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding. I know that we have talked a lot about different crises, and we do have a lot of different crises. We have an economic crisis. We have an inflation crisis. We have an energy cost crisis. We have a supply chain crisis. We have an education crisis. We have a crime crisis. We have a COVID response crisis. We have a healthcare crisis. We have a foreign relations and security crisis. We have a freedom of speech crisis. We have a centralized government and infringement on our rights crisis.

There is one crisis that is very disturbing and concerning to me as a naturalized American who immigrated to this great country. I went to the border three times, and what I saw was lawlessness; its issue of national security, its anarchy, and it is a crisis that has posed a risk to our sovereignty as a nation.

We can see what has happened in the country. Drug cartels are controlling the border. They control drug trafficking and are making billions from that. We have the highest deaths from overdoses in our country that ever existed. Our kids are dying, and they are making a lot of money. The border is open. No one can control it. It poses risks to our national security.

I hope for us all as Americans who care about our country, that our President at least starts dealing with this crisis because it is a serious issue, and

we cannot disregard national security of the greatest country that ever existed on Earth and put our people at risk.

It is our responsibility as Representatives for this Republic to stand up, regardless of party affiliations, and raise the issues, and we owe a duty to the American people.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Madam Speaker, what my colleagues have illustrated here in this Special Order is the crisis that we have in this country. We are on the anniversary now of 1 year of far-left Democratic rule in Washington. We have a unified government. The far-left Democrats are in charge of the White House and both Houses of Congress. Elections have consequences. The American people can see it for themselves. Every poll across this country shows us. They know that it is crisis upon crisis upon crisis.

You have heard my colleagues illustrate so many of those here this afternoon. If we had hours upon hours we could continue all night.

The economic crisis last year: Inflation cost the average worker nearly two paychecks.

An energy crisis: The national average for a gallon of gas rose 49.6 percent for the year.

A border crisis: Because of the Democrats' open border policies, every State is now a border State.

An education crisis: President Biden promised to reopen schools in his first 100 days but his administration secretly worked with teachers' unions to keep the schools closed and label parents as domestic terrorists.

A crime crisis: Over a dozen U.S. cities had a record-high homicide rate in 2021.

A COVID crisis: Although President Biden promised to shut down the virus, many Americans continue to struggle to find tests, and, of course, many schools remain closed because of this.

A national security crisis: Because of President Biden's weakness on the world stage, our adversaries in Beijing, Tehran, and Moscow are stronger today and they are in power.

We could go on and on and on. I am out of time, Madam Speaker, but I will just point out again, the latest poll that was released just this morning didn't look at just numbers. They asked the American people to give a letter grade to the President. Thirty percent of Americans give the President an F, a failing grade, and more Americans give him an F than give him an A or a B. This is a failed Presidency. These are failed policies. We are living under the crises that they have created. It is time for this to come to an end.

We are grateful to the American people for recognizing this, and we look forward to bringing our solutions to bear at the election cycle this fall.

Madam Speaker, our Special Order hour has concluded, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

MOURNING THE LIVES LOST AT TWIN PARKS NORTH WEST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I come here with the heaviest heart. My beloved Bronx saw the deadliest fire in the history of New York City in more than three decades; a fire that has left a death count of 17 residents, including 8 children.

A malfunctioning space heater was the immediate cause of the fire in a duplex on the third floor of a 19-story building known as Twin Parks North West. And even though the fire was largely limited to the third floor, both the apartment door and the nearby stairwell door were left open, causing the smoke to spread rapidly and widely throughout the 19-story building.

Since the building has no fire escapes and since the stairwells were full of black, toxic smoke, the tenants had no means of escape. The smoke spread so widely that victims were found on every floor. The fatalities were tenants who died from severe smoke inhalation from cardiac and respiratory arrest.

Almost all of the victims came from a single town in Gambia. The Gambian community has had roots in Twin Parks North West that date back more than half a century. It is hard to imagine a more closely knit community, a community more tied by the bonds of faith and family and fellowship than the Gambian community of Twin Parks North West, and so the loss is deeply felt.

The victims were as young as 2, and no older than 50. These were victims who had their whole lives ahead of them. Ousmane Konteh was only 2 years old.

Muhammed Drammeh celebrated his twelfth birthday.

Sera Janneh was a student at Lehman College. She had dreams of becoming a social worker of aiding those afflicted by trauma.

My heart aches for the father who lost his wife, two daughters, and a son; for the mother who lost her toddler; for the children who lost their parents; for the Drammeh family who lost four members; and the Dukureh family who lost five.

The fire at Twin Parks North West was as preventable as it was tragic. If the space heater had shut off automatically, the fire would have been prevented.

If the apartment door and the stairwell doors had closed automatically, the spread of the smoke would have been contained and countless lives would have been saved.

If the building had a sprinkler system, the fire would have been extinguished.

If the building had a two-way intercom system, the tenants would have been advised by the fire department to remain in their homes instead of fleeing to a smoke-filled stairwell that had become a death trap.

And if the tenants had sufficient heat and hot water in their homes, there would have been no need to use dangerous space heaters in the first place.

The use of space heaters is often a cry for help and a cry for heat. It is often an act of desperation for decent and dignified housing.

Madam Speaker, the Bronx is no stranger to deadly fires. New York City's four worst fires in the past 30 years have all been in the Bronx, have all been in my district of south Bronx.

The prevalence of deadly fires in south Bronx is no accident. It is a consequence of systemic disinvestment from the lowest income communities of color, from places like the south Bronx, from the safety and quality of affordable housing.

When it comes to fire safety, America is a tale of two countries and New York is a tale of two cities. If you live in a luxury development in Manhattan, then fire safety can be taken for granted. But if you live in an affordable housing complex in the south Bronx, there is no guarantee that your building will have a sprinkler system; in fact, it is unlikely to have one.

There is no guarantee that your building will have self-closing doors. There is no guarantee that your building will have what experts would consider anything resembling modern standards of fire safety.

In America, poor people of color are left to live in conditions that put them at greater risk of losing everything, including their own homes, their own families, their own lives from a catastrophic fire.

If that is not cruel and callous, I am not sure what would be. We are reminded that safe and decent affordable housing is not a privilege but a right; not a luxury but a moral necessity; not an abstraction but a matter of life and death. Building back better should and must mean building back safer for communities long forgotten.

On January 9, the world bore witness to one of the fire department's finest hours of public service. It took the Herculean efforts of more than 200 firefighters to extinguish the fires at Twin Parks North West. Firefighters who had ran out of oxygen in their tanks ran into burning buildings, saving lives at great risk to their own.

There are no words that can convey more powerfully the heroism shown than the image beside me; the image of Matt Zimpfer, a proud member of the FDNY carrying a baby, a visibly traumatized baby that he had rescued from the fire at Twin Parks North West. It is as much an image of our common humanity as it is of the FDNY's uncommon bravery.

For the south Bronx, January 9 is a day that will live in infamy, but the image beside me reminds me that even in a moment of despair, there was cause for hope. Even in a moment of tragedy and a day of infamy, heroes can and do emerge.

The overwhelming sense of sorrow that weighs so heavily on my heart is rivaled only by the overwhelming gratitude that I feel for our heroes at the FDNY, a gratitude that will remain with me for as long as I live.

May God bless the heroic souls of the FDNY, New York City's bravest, and may God bless the resilient and resourceful souls of the Gambian community of Twin Parks North West.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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DEMOCRATS' POLICIES MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, there are so many things we all want to talk about and share, and sometimes, as Members of Congress, we run in front of microphones and sort of do the shiny, loud object of the day because, let's face it, that gets us retweets and Facebook and those things, but they are often trite. So I have a handful of things I want to walk through, but there is going to be a constant theme here.

I am not trying to be mean, but the thing is—and my facts will back me up—that the Democrat policies, if you look at particularly the last 12 months, have made life more miserable for Americans, have made the working class and the poor working class poorer and actually are crushing hope.

I want to walk through a couple of economic things. I am blessed to be the senior Republican on the Joint Economic Committee. There is a handful of economists that work on our side, and there is a handful that work for left side. We have been digging and digging and digging, trying to understand the inflation data, the amount of cash chasing goods, and what is happening in productivity. I hope I am wrong, but I am starting to see numbers that look like we are on the cusp of a wage-price spiral.

Let's sort of walk through our basic economics. You all remember your high school economics class, particu-

larly those of us who are old enough to have been in high school at the end of the 1970s. Businesses raise prices because their costs are going up. Typically, just like we were doing right now in the new year, people are getting their wage hikes. Most of those wage hikes are nothing more than to keep up with inflation, so you end up with this spike.

There was a handful of folks on the Democrat side that were saying to look at the December number; it wasn't spiking as much as the previous months. Wait till you see the January numbers when the wages come in, and then you end up with this world saying now businesses, organizations, government, others, have to keep raising their costs, raising their prices, raising their taxes, others, to keep up because they just had to raise wages, not for our brothers and sisters that are out there working to live better but basically just to be able to purchase the same things.

Except at the end of 2021, Americans were poorer. The fact of the matter is, the average American fell about 2.7 to 3 percent poorer because inflation grew faster than their wages did. But there are lots of things in the economic literature—and I know I am geeking out a little bit—that you start to end up in this seesaw effect, what they call a wage-price spiral. Businesses keep having to raise their costs because now they have to raise the wages, and it becomes a very, very ugly circle.

A bit of trivia. How many of you here would immediately say to go back to the 1980s, particularly the early 1980s? It was Paul Volcker jacking up interest rates to just extraordinary levels that squeezed out inflation. That is actually only part of the story. If you actually look at the math during that time, there were the Reagan tax cuts, the first round of them. They created a great spike in productivity. Because one of the things inflation is, is I have too much money chasing too few goods, so raising interest rates, making everything more expensive, still doesn't do anything to make sure you are making more goods, more services, to fill up that vacuum to remove that inflationary pressure.

You actually even see some of that data after we did tax reform here at the very, very end of 2017, when you saw the spike in productivity. You saw a pretty impressive spike for 2 years of wages and actually falling inflation. Why was that? It is because expensing and other things we did in tax reform, repatriation, getting hundreds of billions of dollars from around the world coming back into the country, actually raised productivity and lowered prices. That is the holy grail. Right now, almost every policy that the administration and, I hate to say, this body is engaging in is counter to that.

We are going to walk through a couple of things here, and our argument is really simple. Almost every major policy set being moved forward—and I

don't think it is purposeful; I think it is a misunderstanding of the most basic economics—that my Democrat brothers and sisters are doing is actually making life more miserable. I don't think it is purposeful, but it is economics.

Let's walk through the facts, just the actual math. I know this is always uncomfortable, but if you actually look at the data that came in, when you look at the expenditures—because I am using this slide. This is actually a 2019 slide, but it is important to set the base. Our brothers and sisters who are in the lowest quartiles—and I hate that term, but it is what we use in economics—dramatically more of their income goes to pay for housing, dramatically more goes to pay for their transportation and food. Those in the upper incomes, that is not where they live.

Think about what has gone on in this last year. Most everyone who is in this room, probably most everyone who is watching this, we are the people who have savings. We have retirement accounts. We have 401(k)'s. Life has gotten more expensive for us, but how many of you have a home that has gone up dramatically in value? Think about those lower income quartiles, that working poor, that middle class, that lower middle class. Do they have a home? Are they renters? How much of their cost is their transportation or just trying to provide housing? What we have allowed to happen inflation-wise is just brutalizing them.

When you actually start to understand what the policies from this last year have done—and I am going to show a number of these things, showing that the left's policies are actually crushing the poor, the working poor, and the middle class.

The difference here, when you see this type of graph, is we are trying to sort of demonstrate that it is both the effects on populations where you are income-wise—if you are in this lower income, how much more the cost of your life is because of inflation. This is almost just a pure demonstration of who benefits and who doesn't benefit.

If you are a homeowner, if you are someone with lots of assets and the stock market has been really good to you, you have come out ahead. If you are like most in the middle class and lower, your standard of living has gone down.

There is this rule of thumb from the top line. What are the two things you do to make the working poor poorer? I have said this dozens of times behind this microphone. It is inflation, and it is opening up the border.

There is this economic theory—and this is actually old literature. It is like 20 years old, and it actually had a number of left groups as part of the authors who basically said if you look at the working poor, a population who probably didn't finish high school, what they sell is their labor, their willingness to work, their willingness to sweat. What happens when you flood

your society, functionally, in 1 year, with a couple of million people with similar skill sets? It is just basic math. You functionally have devalued the value of their labor. You have given them the double whammy. You have created inflation, which affects the poor and the middle class more dramatically.

You saw from the first chart how much more of their resources go to pay for housing, to pay for transportation, and to pay for food. Now you make them compete against a couple of million people with similar skill sets. These aren't IT jobs. This isn't someone who is at the top of the wage scale and creates a multiplier of productivity in society because they are inventing some new app. This is the person who is hanging drywall, working their hearts out. It is a tough job. Their back is aching at the end of the night. Now they look out and there are a couple of million other people in society with similar skill sets.

It is a level of misunderstanding. Some folks will come behind these microphones and pretend they are being compassionate, not understanding the cruelty of inflation and having an open border and how many working poor are getting crushed by this.

I want to go a bit further. As you start to look at the inflation level, you have to understand—7 percent was sort of the national number, right? In markets like mine, in the Phoenix area, we were at 9.7 percent inflation in 2021. A lot of that is because I am from a growth area. Lots of people are abandoning California and Illinois and moving into my neighborhood, so much of my inflation is actually housing.

We have already heard other people come behind the mikes, even today, and talk about the cost of housing. Well, congratulations. In other parts of the country, it is not 7 percent. In mine, it is 9.7 percent. When we look at the charts and the details, it really, really has hurt the working poor, and they are having trouble finding the most basic accommodations.

Then we start to dig in more. The economists have made it very clear that what was allowed to go on in 2021—the economics warns of inflationary inequity. The details are pretty clear. For those who have assets, you are going to do okay. If you are part of half of America who doesn't have those few thousand dollars in the bank or owns a house or has other assets, you have become poorer. The policies are making you poorer.

I know this is uncomfortable, but you can't keep campaigning and doing politics and saying, "We care about the middle class, and we care about the working poor," and then keep adopting policies that make them poorer. At some point, the math always wins. Not the virtue signaling, not the rhetoric, it is the math. We are making half of our country poorer.

One of the other projects we are working on in the Joint Economic

Committee, and a couple of us on the Ways and Means Committee, is also trying to understand what other attributes there are.

I can keep coming to the microphone and talking about the open border, and we have an administration that doesn't seem to give a darn because it is political. Their base has no trouble with a couple of million undocumented folks coming into the country.

Inflation is really, really ugly because the math is brutal. Do you have any sense how high interest rates have to go to squeeze out this inflation? I think there is this fantasy that four marginal rate increases this year somehow are going to tap down inflation.

I will make you a crazy—actually, it is not crazy; it is based on math. At the final quarter of this year, you may be seeing 10 percent inflation. I hope I am wrong. But I was in front of this mike a year ago saying I think we will be close to 7, and I actually underestimated it.

Going back to my opening comments, I really, really, really see in the numbers that we are on the cusp of a wage-price spiral, and four marginal quarter-point increases in interest rates ain't going to cut it unless Congress dramatically starts to think about policies that spike productivity. Except you have a left that now has an article of faith that tax reform, that expensing, these things we did in the tax code to bring hundreds of billions of dollars back into the country to get organizations to invest in plants and equipment to make workers more productive so they could be paid more—well, we can't do that. Except even the liberal economists agree it worked. It turns out, you need to be doing things like that.

The left's Build Back Better social spending bill, because it delinks money, transfer payments from work, every dataset basically says it will continue to spike inflation. At the end of 10 years—I came here with the paper. It makes it very clear. At the end of 10 years, the working poor are poorer because of the way the left has designed these transfer payments without an expectation of participation in society and work. I thought we learned this 25 years ago, but somehow math is heresy.

□ 1530

So let's go. What are some of the other attributes that make our brothers and sisters in that lower middle class, working poor, in many of our neighborhoods, what else makes them poor?

We have touched on inflation. We have touched on flooding society with millions of people with similar skill sets. When was the last time we had someone remind us about the concentration of crime?

For most of the Members in this body, we don't live in neighborhoods that are going to be subject to crime. How many Members here live behind a gate? How many Members here have security?

I did a ride-along for 4 hours on Monday through north central Phoenix in neighborhood after neighborhood after neighborhood. The officer I rode with had almost 28 years on the city of Phoenix police force, and the most disadvantaged neighborhoods had the most crime.

Okay. There is an assault here. You see the person in that apartment, he is a drug dealer. You are realizing, it is the folks living in poverty who are in the core of the crime. And then the left takes a position of basically having verbal violence toward law enforcement.

But we know the data says, if you look at the concentrations of poverty, one of the attributes that makes someone poor is when someone comes and steals their stuff. You are trying to work; someone steals your tools. You are trying to survive; someone breaks into your car or steals your automobile. It is another attribute that once again the left's policies are this constant economic violence on the poor.

And then you start to go on another thing we are working on. This one is much more complex, but it is starting to prove the theory is true. How many of you have ever heard the discussion about health disparities? Urban poor, my Native American populations, even rural poor, there are health disparities, and it is absolutely true.

Our brothers and sisters with renal failure, diabetes, these things, who are concentrated, we can almost draw data circles around them and say, look at the income inequality of this neighborhood to a neighborhood that might be just down the street.

We have been trying to understand what the attributes are. Oddly enough, some of the attributes aren't race. They are health. They are crime. They are education. But the one that no one here has focused on is actually health.

If you ever get a chance—and this is for anyone who is listening—try to find the data of those who are suffering type 2 diabetes and the concentration. Go find a heat map. It becomes a really interesting discussion because what I am making as my fourth attribute is our brothers and sisters who are sicker.

So the left's attitude is, well, it is good politics, we will just put up a bunch more clinics. We will help them manage their diabetes. Okay. That is an honorable thing. Wouldn't it be much more compassionate to cure, to disrupt?

So we do know, because it came out a year ago, but it is as if no one actually read it. We actually have the paper that was put together, a working paper series from the Congressional Budget Office. It was functionally some of the data within the Democrats' H.R. 3. If you actually dig through the numbers within their working paper, it makes it clear that the Democrats—it is great politics—hey, we are going to lower drug prices. But the way they go about doing it a decade from now, so many

cures don't come. And as the paper talks about, it is the very cures for things like potentially diabetes and other ailments that are concentrated in our poor population.

So it is functionally the left's policy on something like H.R. 3—because if you think about their pricing mechanism where if a drug costs more than this amount of money, you can't have it. It is once again policy that says, we are going to find a way for you to live with your misery, but we are going to make living with your misery a little cheaper. Then I think the thing that is loving and more compassionate is we are going to find a way to cure it. It really is a different mindset, and that isn't Republican or Democrat. It is just compassion.

But it may not be great politics because the fact of the matter is, if you look at the mechanics within H.R. 3, the Democrats actually make Big Pharma more profitable and bigger and more powerful, and they wipe out the disrupters, the small biologics, the small pharma that is actual chewing away their book of business because they are curing the disease whereas Big Pharma over here is just maintaining it.

It is the classic economic irony of this place acts like a protection racket. We give great speeches about how we are going to do this, and then—wink, wink, nod, nod—what actually is happening is you are locking in someone's oligopoly.

Once again, if you go through the paper, it makes it really clear that the first couple of years there is not much difference because it is what is already in the disruptive pharmaceutical pipeline. And we have done presentations here of 100 new are-under-research and only a few actually succeed. But in about 5 or 6 years you start to see a collapse of those cures. Welcome to Democrat policy once again.

We have come to the floor multiple times with H.R. 3. We have made a number of people very angry by referring to it as the Big Pharma protection act. But the math is the math. And now you still have additional CBO studies that make it clear we are telling the truth. It is what it is.

We have actually made proposals to our brothers and sisters on the left saying, we both are enraged at the price of pharmaceuticals. Believe it or not there are other ways to get there, and one of the most magical things we could do for society are also some of the kickers to make sure there are capital stacks and these other things that are a little geeky, but ways that that investment goes into the cures.

So when you have things like a single-shot cure for hemophilia—I did this presentation back in December. We have a proof of concept of a cure for type 1 diabetes. Starting out, these are going to be really expensive, they are going to be really difficult until we functionally turn it into a biofoundry, and you build the capital stack, the

Tax Code, the incentives to do lots of that. But I can show you in chart after chart, it saves society, it saves taxpayers a fortune in the future.

Remember, last year's CBO math said in 29 years we are \$112 trillion in debt in publicly borrowed money in today's dollars. So that is inflation-adjusted dollars. And we know that number is going to spike once we get the math from this last fiscal year plugged in there. About 75 percent of that spending is just Medicare, that debt is Medicare. The other 25 percent is Social Security.

The most powerful thing you can do for U.S. sovereign debt is disrupt the price of healthcare, and our argument is, the greatest elegance is actually doing it by making people healthier.

There is one other thing I want to throw in my frustration of Democrat policy. My expertise is more Arizona and not the rest of the country. We have seen the debate around here, lots of flowery words, and almost no detail of the reality of what is underlying the piece of legislation.

Our friends on the left will come behind the microphones and say it is a Voting Rights Act. Okay. How is giving a politician six to one—so you give me \$200, and the Treasury is going to multiply it by six times—defending democracy? Or is that, once again, the left being so much smarter than Republicans are on how to try to stay in power?

How about some of the other things that are in the Democrats' H.R. 1 and H.R. 4, their Federal election bill?

My theory is a little different than other folks. It is just a blatant power grab. It is not a power grab for the Federal Government, which it is that, but it is much more than that. It is a power grab by a party that basically is trying to design the election code to fit their fund-raising model, their campaign model.

It does other things. Like down here, my State for functionally 18 years has had voter ID laws. Every dataset out there says you can't find a differential of populations not being able to vote. Matter of fact, I think in my State some of the underlying data is African-American females have the highest participation. It is actually White males, particularly White rural males that have some of the lowest participation and some of my Native Americans. But that doesn't meet the folklore that we get from our brothers and sisters on the left.

Think about this—and this is the circle I want folks who are paying attention to get their heads around—how it works. So the Democrats push a voting rights bill, but it is really about voting mechanics. And what they do is they say, Hey, we are going to have same-day, automatic registration, and then we are going to legalize, industrialize ballot harvesting, and then at the same time we are going to do this they also are allowed to have, if you give them money, they get six to one. So why would you do that?

Well, first off, as in California, the Democrats have built a huge infrastructure. If you run for Congress, you actually take a substantial portion of your campaign money and hire firms that go knock on doors and harvest ballots. It is now a campaign mechanic.

Well, what happens if you hire lots of people to go walk through that massive apartment building or this and that and knock on the door and say, Hey, I will register you right here, let's do your ballot. That is functionally what they are doing in this legislation.

And the beauty of it, it will ultimately be taxpayers who will be financing it because the left, to their credit, has spent about the last 15, 20 years building an online contribution system. And here is the kicker. That online contribution system has trained contributors to the left, contributors to Democrats who say, don't give one person this much money, give 10 people this much. And it is as if it has always been laid out the same, and—wink, wink, nod, nod—one day we are going to set up a public funding system so your \$25 contribution or \$200 contribution gets multiplied six times.

You have got to give the left, the Democrats credit for their, just, audacity. And then to call it a civil rights voting bill when, when you break through its mechanics, it is about power, it is about power and control. That is what this is.

The other beauty is handing the bureaucracy here in Washington, D.C., the functionality of saying they can tell my State of Arizona what is allowed and what isn't allowed.

We have a family saying that goes, money, power, vanity, but most of the time it is about the money. In this case, I have got to give the left credit. They hit all three in the same piece of legislation. It becomes about the money, it becomes about them keeping the power, but reality has almost nothing to do with fairness. It is about the fear that the public understands how much of the left's policies have been crappy to them, their families, this country. The mechanism they are going to try to keep in power is to functionally have us finance their elections and allow them to industrialize the very bad acts that so many of us worry about.

Madam Speaker, I think I feel a little better getting some of that out of my system. I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1545

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, there are several issues of importance that I don't feel this body has spent enough time discussing, and unless

they are addressed could result in a great deal of discomfort for a lot of Americans.

The first is the issue concerning sheltered workshops, also known as work centers or community rehabilitation programs.

Perhaps you folks are familiar with them. They are places where people of different abilities frequently work, frequently doing packaging, maybe light manufacturing.

Because of the different abilities that some people have, they have to get what are called 14(c) certificates and may work for less than minimum wage. Disabilities they may have would include things like perhaps spina bifida or similar things that make it a little bit more difficult for them to work.

Nevertheless, throughout my political career I have always enjoyed touring the sheltered workshops in part because the employees that work there are so proud of the work they are doing and so proud of the fact that they are able to earn a paycheck and purchase some of their own clothes, perhaps purchase gifts for their relatives.

Right now these sheltered workshops are under attack in the Build Back Better bill, and that bill may easily pass some time in the next year. I am afraid even the majority of Democrats who voted for the bill are unaware that these sheltered workshops are under attack.

There are two reasons why people want to get rid of sheltered workshops. There are people who feel under no circumstances should somebody make less than minimum wage. This is ignoring the economic reality and ignoring the reality of the type of jobs that are available for these folks.

The second concern they have is they feel that these people are segregated from the rest of society working in a sheltered workshop. That is, of course, not true. There are people of all sorts of abilities in these workshops; and in my opinion, people who work in these workshops frequently work there for 25 or 30 years. And people in management also work there for an extended period of time.

Nevertheless, there is an extreme group which feels that we are taking advantage of people by having them work in the workshop.

I will point out that in addition to the ability to have some of your own economic independence, you develop lifelong friends in these workshops that you wouldn't develop if you were looking for other jobs out in the community.

One of the concerns for people with different abilities is that it is important that they develop friendships other than just their parents or immediate family. It is something that is always of great concern for parents of people in situations like this, and insofar as the sheltered workshops were shut down, you wouldn't have this natural grouping of friends or lifelong co-workers that you are going to be able to interact with.

It is time for the sheltered workshop community to wake up and realize in this bill of thousands of pages the radical group that wants to shut down the sheltered workshops may finally get their dream. And if they get their dream, they will find that some of these folks are going to find jobs in the community, but they are not going to find 35 or 40 hour a week jobs in the community. They may find 3 or 4 hour a week jobs in the community. They will lose the pride that comes with having a full-time job. They will no longer feel they are like their siblings or friends who go to work every day and earn a paycheck. It will be devastating for these folks. Some folks have been working in these sheltered workshops for 25 or 30 years and have years left to go. It is tragic that some people want to take this freedom away from them.

I should also point out that nobody forces anybody to work in these sheltered workshops. If there were other jobs in the community they or their guardians could take them out and have them work fast food or have them work light retail or have them work in some light manufacturing. But what these people who are trying to get rid of these sheltered workshops are doing is they are taking away the choice that these folks have made for themselves, the choice that makes them feel so happy, makes them feel so good.

So I strongly encourage people who know someone in these workshops to get politically involved before these folks' lives are devastated.

And insofar as we have any of the Democrats paying attention to what I am saying right now, I beg you to go in your district and tour one of the sheltered workshops yourself because they will make you feel so good.

There are very few things in this job that make me feel as good as touring these workshops because you see how happy and productive people can be that on the face of it seem to be dealt a tough hand in life. But they have made what they can of themselves. They are very happy. And I beg the majority party not to take away this right.

The second issue that I would like to talk about a little bit today is with regard to COVID.

One of the frustrating things about the establishment—and I think this goes back even before the Biden administration—is there has not been enough discussion of the correlation of inadequate amounts of Vitamin D and getting severe cases of COVID.

Right now in this country, all Americans should be aiming at having 30 nanograms per milliliter of Vitamin D. People who fail to get that 30 nanograms disproportionately wind up getting COVID and getting COVID severely.

There are other things that make you more likely to get COVID. If you have diabetes, if you are overweight, these are other things that correlate

with getting COVID. And we know that if you lose a little weight, your situation would improve.

Vitamin D or a lack of having 30 nanograms per milliliter of Vitamin D does correlate with problems. Right now in our society, sadly, 96 percent of Black Americans are insufficient to that level, 88 percent of Hispanics, 65 percent of Whites. It is not something that has been talked about anywhere near enough, and it is a question as to why the public health establishment has not done a better job of explaining the correlation between bad Vitamin D outcomes and bad COVID outcomes.

Some people feel it is not something that is talked about enough because there is no money to be made. And, of course, a lot of people are making a lot of money on COVID; but if you solve your Vitamin D levels by just going to the local drugstore and buying 20 or \$40 worth of Vitamin D pills, there is not the possibility of people to make billions of dollars.

Nevertheless, if you are out there, I strongly encourage all Americans to get a hold of Vitamin D. Vitamin C and zinc are good, as well, but today I try one more time to beg my friends back home to go get some Vitamin D, and I beg the medical community who right now does not test for Vitamin D like they should; I am told it is because there is not enough reimbursement in Medicare, and we don't want to lose money on what we are doing, but the medical community ought to be testing everybody for Vitamin D if they come in for their annual checkup. All Americans should be looking to get that level above 30 nanograms per milliliter.

There are other things, as well, that could be done to reduce the high number of deaths from COVID. Fenofibrate is a drug which some Israeli researchers had success with. It is a generic drug, and as a result, it is very reasonable to get a hold of. The same thing is true with hydroxychloroquine. And there are doctors I know who have had success with that. I don't think it is quite as successful with the omicron variant, but it was very successful with the alpha variant. And there is ivermectin, and I have known doctors who have used that, and they have had success curing people there. But for whatever reason, on some of these cheaper alternatives that I think could have saved hundreds of thousands of people, the public health establishment and the medical establishment has not been as outspoken as they should.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Wisconsin for yielding on this very important subject. I was unfortunate to catch COVID a couple weeks ago, and I think that the Vitamin D supplements I was taking in addition to Vitamin C, in addition to zinc definitely helped to minimize the length and the severity of the illness.

Madam Speaker, today marks 1 year since Joe Biden was sworn in as President, meaning it has been a year since

Democrats took unified control of the Federal Government.

And at this point there is no denying that Americans are worse off today than they were 12 months ago.

Consumer prices have risen 7 percent since Democrats won congressional majorities and the White House, marking a 40-year high rate of inflation.

Gas prices reached \$3.28 a gallon last month, a 49.6 percent increase from a year ago.

1.7 illegal immigrants were encountered unlawfully crossing the border in FY21, the highest number ever recorded.

Sixteen major U.S. cities set new homicide records this past year.

And just last week, COVID hospitalizations hit a record high.

Thirteen American servicemembers tragically lost their lives, and the Taliban captured Afghanistan as a result of this administration's disastrous withdrawal plan.

Madam Speaker, Democrats are certainly setting records, just not the records that they want to be breaking. Their party has utterly failed the American people.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to address another, perhaps inadvertent, perhaps not so inadvertent, group of provisions in the Build Back Better bill.

As we look across the country, when one compares to where America is today compared to where America was 50 years ago, certainly one area that I think most Americans would think is a step in the wrong direction is the breakdown of the traditional family. However, not all people consider the breakdown in the so-called western prescribed nuclear family structure as a bad thing.

Black Lives Matter, which played such a big role in the elections last November, on their website came out saying we want to disrupt the western prescribed nuclear family structure.

They are not the only ones who don't like the western family. We know Karl Marx felt that as he wanted to work his way towards paradise, we had to get rid of the traditional family.

I don't know whether it is a coincidence or not, but our current welfare system with all of the programs that are part of it, be it the education grants, be it the medical grants, be it the food stamps, be it the low-income housing, are all set not to benefit families in which there are two parents at home to raise the children.

In other words, the United States for years and years has been trying to get rid of the nuclear family. It is like Karl Marx himself were writing the welfare policies.

In the Build Back Better bill, we are going further on down this line. I don't know that this is exactly supposed to be a pay back to Black Lives Matter, but the reconciliation bill will more than double the earned income tax credit marriage penalty. It has provisions for greatly increasing the number

of low-income housing units. And I feel that the way those units are doled out, again, very difficult to get those units if you have a mom and dad at home. But there are people who want to get rid of that sort of family.

I would strongly encourage the majority party, before they push this bill any further, to have a study done on who benefits from these new provisions and who doesn't, and is it one more time a situation which we are bribing people not to have old-fashioned nuclear families.

□ 1600

I am afraid, like I said, right now, this looks like another victory for the hard leftwing of the Democratic Party that embraces the idea that we ought to get rid of the nuclear family. It is not a coincidence. It is in the bill.

In any event, these are things I will leave our audience with as we break for the following week. If you know somebody who works in a sheltered workshop or work center, or know a Congressman, invite them to the sheltered workshops to see what they are in danger of shutting down.

If you know people who do not yet have COVID, remind them to get more vitamin D. If there are any doctors out there—I know sometimes you can't be reimbursed for everything, but you guys make enough money—make sure you begin to do some testing of vitamin D levels so that if people are below 30 nanograms per milliliter, they know it and they know that they should go to the drugstore and begin to get more vitamin D, together with zinc and vitamin C.

Finally, I encourage the majority party, before they do any more with Build Back Better, to have some work done and see whether you really want to go ahead and further steepen the penalty for married couples who have children, which already, like I said, is like the policy of the United States: We don't want to have old-fashioned nuclear families.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1192. An act to impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as "PROMESA").

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3208. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE Program: TRICARE Reserve Select Coverage for Members of the Selected Reserve [Docket ID: DOD-2020-HA-0073] (RIN: 0720-AB79) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3209. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Protection of Privacy and Access to and Amendment of Individual Records under the Privacy Act of 1974; Technical Amendment [Docket ID: DoD-2021-OS-0088] (RIN: 0790-AL42) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3210. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Ogeechee River, Richmond Hill, GA [Docket No.: USCG-2021-0596] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3211. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Potomac River, Between Charles County, MD and King George County, VA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0745] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3212. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0768] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3213. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; San Juan Bay for Jurakan Triathlon, San Juan, PR [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0775] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3214. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Biscayne Bay Causeway Island Slip, Miami Beach, FL [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0077] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3215. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland

Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Oil Pipeline Repairs; San Pedro Bay, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0784] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3216. A letter from the Legal Technician, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; Corpus Christi Ship Channel, Corpus Christi, TX [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0876] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3217. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Olmsted, IL [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0495] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3218. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; Houston Ship Channel, Houston, TX [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0883] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3219. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Tchefuncte River, Madisonville, LA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0808] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3220. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Frantic Inc Chase Center Fireworks, San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0865] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3221. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Oil Pipeline Repairs; San Pedro Bay, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0911] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3222. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Incorporation by Reference; North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria; Hazardous Materials Safety Permits [Docket No.: FMCSA-2021-0063] (RIN: 2126-AC40) received January 12, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BAIRD (for himself, Mr. MAST, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 6421. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure the timely scheduling of appointments for health care at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BACON, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. MANN, Mr. RESCIENTHALER, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. FALLON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. KELLER, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ISSA, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HERN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H.R. 6422. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6423. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 respecting the scoring of preventive health savings; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 6424. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 6425. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to increase the maximum Federal Pell Grant amount, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 6426. A bill to increase accountability, transparency, and local control of governing boards under the Continuum of Care program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H.R. 6427. A bill to amend the Red River National Wildlife Refuge Act to modify the boundary of the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6428. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a State and local general sales tax credit for small businesses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MILLER of Illinois:

H.R. 6429. A bill to establish certain protections for members of the Armed Forces

who refuse to receive vaccinations against COVID-19, and to increase basic pay for members of the uniformed services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 6430. A bill to include Iceland in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E1 and E2 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Iceland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 6431. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the alteration, falsification, fabrication, destruction, omission, or removal of records or certain information required to be produced or maintained for a drug, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. MEIJER):

H.R. 6432. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to limit the use of business integrity and reputation factors in determining the eligibility of a retail food store or wholesale food concern to be approved to accept and redeem supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RESCIENTHALER, and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 6433. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the tax exemption of the International Olympic Committee and similar organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H. Res. 874. A resolution supporting the designation of a National Year of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H. Res. 875. A resolution electing a Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H. Res. 876. A resolution expressing the sense that the process behind Operation Warp Speed should be integrated within operations at the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GRUJALVA, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAI, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H. Res. 877. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding many of today's greatest national security challenges and outlining a new framework for foreign policy for the 21st century; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GALLEGÓ, Ms. HOULAHAN,

Mr. JONES, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MANNING, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. COLE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. TRONE, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. SIREs, Mrs. AXNE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CARSON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. VELA, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CRIST, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. MENG, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. STEFANK, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. DEAN, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WILD, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. CASE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H. Res. 878. A resolution recognizing the seriousness of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and expressing support for the designation of the month of September 2022 as "PCOS Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. CHU, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H. Res. 879. A resolution supporting the designation of July 2022 as Uterine Fibroids Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. BASS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. CHU, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H. Res. 880. A resolution supporting the designation of March 2022 as Endometriosis

Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 6421.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, authorized by Congress' power to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States."

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6422.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6423.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 7

By Mr. DEFazio:

H.R. 6424.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. DEFazio:

H.R. 6425.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 6426.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H.R. 6427.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution gives Congress the power to make laws that are necessary and proper to carry out its enumerated powers.

By Mrs. MILLER of Illinois:

H.R. 6429.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, "To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof."

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 6430.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 6431.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 6432.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 6433.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 40: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H.R. 303: Mr. KIND and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 310: Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 336: Mr. KILMER, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 480: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 481: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 682: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 1012: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 1164: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1179: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1210: Mr. BUCHSON.
H.R. 1282: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. CAMMACK, Ms. BASS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. TIMMONS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. CHU, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.R. 1321: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 1378: Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CASE, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 1516: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 1577: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 1579: Mr. RICE of South Carolina and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 1803: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1813: Mr. HIGGINS of New York and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1829: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 1946: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 2102: Ms. BASS and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 2216: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 2230: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2249: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 2252: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 2270: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 2288: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 2469: Mr. MULLIN.

- H.R. 2542: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 2565: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 3054: Ms. NEWMAN.
H.R. 3101: Mr. CAREY.
H.R. 3134: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 3285: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 3405: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 3442: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 3460: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. HILL, and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 3488: Mr. GOLDEN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. RASKIN, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3519: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 3541: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 3577: Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.R. 3586: Mr. HIMES and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 3621: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3824: Mr. TRONE and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 3849: Mr. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 3855: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3857: Ms. NEWMAN and Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 3867: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 3897: Mr. LUCAS and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 4065: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 4066: Mr. BURCHETT.
H.R. 4070: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 4110: Ms. JACOBS of California and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4134: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4137: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 4151: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GOLDEN, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CHENEY, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 4366: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4457: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 4634: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 4826: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 4827: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 5017: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5108: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 5148: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 5162: Mr. CAREY and Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 5254: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 5388: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 5407: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5416: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5490: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 5521: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 5541: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 5577: Mr. BAIRD and Ms. GRANGER.
H.R. 5703: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 5735: Mr. STANTON and Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 5745: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 5754: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5755: Mr. MELJER.
H.R. 5819: Mr. KEATING and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5832: Mrs. MCBATH and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 5841: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5912: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 5919: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 5984: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. DEFazio, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DELGADO, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 6015: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 6059: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 6067: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 6089: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 6109: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 6114: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 6184: Mr. GARCIA of California and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 6192: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 6201: Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 6219: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 6288: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 6291: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 6299: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 6323: Mr. PALAZZO and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 6367: Mr. BACON, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MELJER, Mr. BARR, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 6375: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 6380: Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. MAST, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 6383: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 6403: Mr. ARMSTRONG and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 6408: Mrs. LURIA.
H.J. Res. 6: Mr. POSEY.
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.J. Res. 53: Ms. SEWELL.
H.J. Res. 67: Mr. CARL.
H. Con. Res. 60: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. OMAR.
H. Res. 47: Mr. MCEACHIN.
H. Res. 174: Mr. HIMES and Ms. STANSBURY.
H. Res. 404: Mrs. AXNE.